

FORT SAM HOUSTON News Leader

"HOME OF ARMY MEDICINE"



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jason Merrell

Ready for action

Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Mason (center), 201st Military Intelligence Battalion, furls the battalion colors Sept. 6 with assistance from 1st Sgt. Darin Schartner (right), 201st MI Bn. Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, at MacArthur Parade Field. Lt. Col. John Strycula, commander, 201st MI Bn. stands by. The ceremony was in preparation for the battalion's deployment to Iraq this month.

See 201ST MI BN. P6

Renovations ease daily living for wounded warriors

By Cheryl Harrison
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

On a daily basis, the majority of Americans wash their face and hands, take a shower or bath, and more than likely reach up to choose an outfit from the closet. All normal routines, usually accomplished without a second thought.

Another group of Americans, which includes wounded warriors, has the same routine, yet it is not accomplished without forethought, planning and execution.

At Okubo Barracks, near Brooke Army Medical Center, renovations have been under way for some time to make navigation and daily routines easier to accomplish for wounded service members.

"With far more wounded Soldiers than anticipated, renovations needed to be

See RENOVATIONS P7

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Showing dedication to family, nation

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Exercise to test garrison's reaction to terrorist attack

By Elaine Wilson
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

Fort Sam Houston will be put to the test Tuesday during a garrison functional exercise called Tempest Express.

The one-day exercise will test the garrison's ability to react to a terrorist attack with weapons of mass destruction.

"The focus will be on initial response to multiple events," said Michael McCarthy, chief, Plans and Ops, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security. The exercise will include about six to eight hours of controlled exercise play followed by an

"The goal is to provide the garrison an opportunity to assess, train and refine its force protection, emergency management and emergency response tactics, techniques and procedures."

Michael McCarthy
Chief, Plans and Ops, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security

after-action review.

"The goal is to provide the garrison an opportunity to assess, train and refine its force protection, emergency management and emergency response tactics, techniques and procedures," McCarthy said.

To start, exercise threat messages will be sent to DPTMS. As the threat builds,

the Threat Working Group will convene and make recommendations on actions required.

The exercise will primarily test communications and involve many garrison functions to include the Installation Operations Center, Incident Command,

See EXERCISE P5

VISIT NEWS LEADER ONLINE: WWW.SAMHOUSTON.ARMY.MIL/PAO/DEFAULT.HTML



Police enforce child safety, vandalism, speeding policies

By Maj. Christopher Hayes

Fort Sam Houston Provost Marshal

As your director of Emergency Services and Provost Marshal, I have been out and about on the installation, observing, and sometimes even conducting radar enforcement in various areas for personnel who are speeding. Speeding seems to be a major problem in all of the housing areas. Remember, the speed limit in housing areas is 20 mph.

You may have seen some of the radar trailers displaying your speed in different areas around post. If you see these trailers, be aware that police will be in that area soon, enforcing speed limits. There will be zero tolerance for speeders. Please slow down! The speed limits posted on the signs are laws, not suggestions!

Unattended children

According to Installation Policy Statement #34, children age 9 and younger should never be left unsupervised, either at home, on a playground or in a vehicle, unless there is a responsible person present and designated to supervise them. Babysitters must be at least age 13 or older, and are encouraged to complete the American Red Cross Babysitter Training course or other appropriate training. Children 10 and 11 years old can be left alone for a short period of time – one to two hours — during daylight hours only. A 12-year-old may be left alone for up to four hours, again during daylight hours only and should check in with a responsible adult at least once during this time period. Children 13 and 14 years old can be left alone for about eight hours during the daytime or early evening hours.

If children are home alone for a few hours after school, make sure you set rules for locking doors and windows, and answering the

door or telephone. Talk about what activities children can or cannot do while home alone, like using the computer or stove. Make sure they check in with you or a neighbor immediately after school. Agree on rules for inviting friends over and for going to a friend's house when no adult is home.

Most importantly, take time to listen carefully to children's fears and feelings about people or places that scare them or make them feel uneasy. Tell them to trust their instincts. Take complaints about bullies and other concerns seriously.

Be sure your children know their home phone number, including area code and address, and work or cell numbers of parents or those of another trusted adult. Make sure children know how and when to use 911.

If your child misses school or you pick up children early and they attend an after-school program, please contact the program staff to let them know your child will not be there. Every year, the police are called by staff members, worried that a child might

be missing.

Vandalism

We have had several reports of vandalism on post in some of the housing areas, which is unacceptable. Report all incidents of crime, suspected crime, suspicious people or vehicles, gate jumpers and stray animals to Military Police at 221-2222. If you would like to remain anonymous, call the CLUE line at 221-CLUE (2583).

Stray animals

Stray animals are becoming an increasing problem for police. Please don't feed stray animals that might live in your area; by doing so, you are adding to the stray animal problem. If you see a stray animal, contact the police at 221-2222 and provide a description of the animal and the location.

You may also notice traps set out in various locations. These are humane traps; the animals are not injured

See CRIME WATCH P8



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News Briefs

SJA office closure

The Fort Sam Houston Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, to include the Claims Division, will close Sept. 20 from 12 p.m. to close of business in observance of Organizational Day. The Legal Assistance Office will be open for notary services only. For emergencies, contact the on-call officer at 393-3042. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class James Jordan at 221-0484.

Force tracking system training

The Information Management Training Branch will offer training on the Force XXI Battle Command Brigade and Below /Blue Force Tracking system, a digital battle command information system that provides on-the-move, battle command information. The training will be held Monday to Sept. 20 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is open to active duty service members. To register, visit the Army Training Requirements and Resources System, or ATRRS, at <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/atrrscc> and enter system course number 5K-F21/012-F46. For more information, call Marvin Danzy at 221-0640 or e-mail marvin.danzy@amedd.army.mil; or call Hartense Green at 221-2216 or e-mail hartense.green@amedd.army.mil.

Green to Gold briefings

The Fort Sam Houston Education Center will host Green to Gold briefings for Soldiers interested in the Green to Gold ROTC program Sept. 20 at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. in Building 2247, at the corner of Stanley and New Braunfels Avenue. Learn about the Active Duty Option, the Full Scholarship Option and the Two Year Non-scholarship Option. Army ROTC school cadre and 12th ROTC Brigade Recruiting Office personnel will be available to answer questions. For more information, call 295-2005.

Gazebo concert

A gazebo concert will be held Sept. 23 at 6 p.m. at the gazebo located on Staff Post Road. The concert will be hosted by Brig. Gen. James Gilman, commander, Brooke Army Medical Center. Bring lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy an evening of music provided by the U.S. Army Medical Command Band. The public is invited to enter at the Walters gate off Interstate Highway 35. A valid photo ID is required for everyone age 16 and older.

Senior Leader EO training

Senior Leader Equal Opportunity Training will be held Sept. 25 from 8 to 10 a.m. in Wood Auditorium, Building 2792. For more information, call Master Sgt. Ricky Evans at 295-0561 or Sgt. 1st Class Rosalba Chambers at 221-4240.

New system to address Army's personnel, pay services

The Defense Integrated Military Human Resources System will be implemented at Fort Sam Houston Oct. 1. The congressionally mandated program, spearheaded by the Department of Defense, focuses on the Army's personnel and pay functions.

DIMHRS will provide the Army with an integrated, multi-component personnel and pay system.

Each Soldier will have a single, comprehensive record of service featuring a self-service capability that will allow Soldiers to update portions of their personal information. The personnel records will be available to human resources professionals, combatant commanders, personnel and pay managers, and other

To provide an overview and detailed information, the DIMHRS Strategic Communications team will visit Fort Sam Houston Sept. 27 at 1 p.m. and Sept. 28 at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797.

authorized users.

The system also will address deficiencies in the current delivery of military personnel and pay services, such as incorrect pay and inaccurate credit of service.

To provide an overview and detailed information, the DIMHRS Strategic Communications team will visit Fort Sam Houston Sept. 27 at 1 p.m. and Sept. 28 at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. The team will meet

with active duty, Reserve and National Guard leadership to discuss their role and the role of the installation in the coming transformation of personnel and pay resulting from DIMHRS implementation.

The team will provide DIMHRS information to a

broad cross section of the personnel human resource and finance community, to include the Reserve and National Guard. In this forum, the DIMHRS team will brief the audience on the program, provide a timeline for implementation and demonstrate system functionality.

For more information, visit the Army DIMHRS Web site at www.armydimhrs.army.mil.

(Source: Directorate of Human Resources)

CFC contributions can change lives

Story and photo by Olivia Mendoza

Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

Fort Sam Houston kicked off its 2007 Combined Federal Campaign Tuesday with a ceremony at Army Community Service. The campaign will run through Nov. 21.

Cynthia Taylor, Directorate of Human Resources and CFC campaign director, said "CFC is a very significant program and we can all try to exceed this year's goal of \$102,952."

"CFC is a program that allows certain charitable organizations to solicit contributions from employees of the federal government. CFC is nearly 4 million strong with federal employees and military members who participate and contribute to charities of their choice every year," said Col. Wendy Martinson, commander, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Sam Houston. "It is a partnership that takes everyone to participate and those who lead the campaign to bring in contributions to a worthy cause."

By designating where CFC contributions will go, employees can ensure their donation goes to meet the needs that they feel are most important. All funds contributed to the CFC that are not designated to a specific organization or federation will be distributed to all organizations in the same proportion as they received designations.

"You get to decide if you want to contribute. It is not mandatory, but it is mandatory that everyone has an opportunity to contribute in a way they feel is comfortable and appropriate for them," says Martinson.



(From left) Terri Uribe, Stan Replogle and Florence Bunten pick up several 2007 Combined Federal Campaign brochures Tuesday during the CFC kick off ceremony at Army Community Service.

Also attending the kick off was Russell Fritz, Fisher House representative, who shared some history of the Fisher House Foundation and provided an overview of what the houses offer to Soldiers and their Families. Rhonda Devries, Fort Sam Houston Child and Youth Services, gave an overview of the types of services offered to the children and their Families. Devries said, "With the help of contributions we can help military and civilian children stay busy with projects and offer state-of-the-art equipment and supplies."

To make a change in someone's life, give one gift at a time by contacting a unit CFC representative.

36th Infantry Division units begin, end history here

Story and photo by Phil Reidinger
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs Office

During a ceremony on MacArthur Parade Field Sunday, Maj. Gen. John Furlow, 36th Infantry Division commanding general, retired and cased the colors of the 36th Division Artillery and activated the 71st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade.

The 36th Division Artillery served in several famous World War II combat actions including the battles of Salerno, Cassino and Anzio. Fighting in France, Texas artillery units also helped in the rescue of the famous 1-141st Infantry Battalion. More recently, the 36th Division Artillery participated in peace-keeping operations in Bosnia and deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. On the home front, the

artillerymen supported hurricane operations during Katrina and Rita in 2005. The current commander, Col Robert Canon, retired the colors.

The 71st Battlefield Intelligence Brigade activated during the same ceremony. Col. William Smith will serve as the first commander. He previous served as the Texas Army National Guard chief of staff. The brigade will comprise a headquarters company, 2nd Battalion 131st Field Artillery (Multiple Launch Rocket System), the 4th Battalion 133rd Field Artillery, the 3-124 Cavalry and a forward support company. The original 71st Infantry Brigade was established Oct. 15, 1917, and served in France, most famously during the attack on Mount Blanc Ridge.



Soldiers from the 36th Division Artillery prepare to case the colors and activate the 71st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade Sunday before the ceremony at MacArthur Parade Field.

Warrior Citizen Awards acknowledge 228th's success

By Phil Reidinger
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs Office

Members of the 228th Combat Support Hospital filled Blesse Auditorium to capacity Sunday as they were joined by Families and several employers to receive the Welcome Home Warrior Citizen Award.

Hospital Commander Col. Lester McGilvray, Great Plains Regional Medical Command and Brooke Army Medical Center Commanding

General Brig. Gen James K. Gilman and hospital Command Sgt. Maj. Raul Casas presented the awards. The Warrior Citizen Award recognizes reservists who excelled in the performance of their duties while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom for 180 consecutive days or more.

The hospital, with a staff of 458 from 33 different states, provided Level II medical care in four separate locations including Mosul, Balad and Tikrit. During the 12-

month deployment, the hospital supported 240,000 Soldiers caring for 2,700 trauma patients, 2,500 inpatients, and 18,500 out-patients and executed 1,600 evacuations.

For their service the 228th Combat Support Hospital was awarded the Meritorious Unit Citation.

Attending the ceremony were Texas State Senator Jeff Wentworth; Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw, Fort Sam Houston commanding general; and Janice Ricks and Les Paulick repre-

senting the Association of the U.S. Army.

Wentworth, one of four serving Texas senators with active duty service, said he is awed by their dedication and grateful for their service. "We owe a huge debt to you for our freedom," he said.

Gilman read a letter to members of the unit from Texas Governor Rick Perry congratulating them for their service to the nation.

See WARRIOR CITIZEN P5

News Briefs cont.

Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon

The Eighth Annual Tell-A-Friend Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon will be held Oct. 5 at 11:30 a.m. at the St. Anthony Wyndham Grand Heritage Hotel, 300 E. Travis St. the guest speaker will be Lillian Shockney, a two-time survivor of breast cancer who serves as the administrative director of the Breast Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins Medical Center. Tickets are \$15. To purchase tickets, call Susie Ferrise at 916-2261, Sandy Terrazzino at 916-4457 or Donna Ward at 884-0561 by Sept. 28.

Hispanic Heritage Month luncheon

The Fort Sam Houston community will commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month with a luncheon Oct. 10 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club, Building 1395. The guest speaker will be Dr. Lorena Gonzalez and Rumba Dreams will provide entertainment. Tickets are \$11, which includes a lunch buffet. For tickets, call Master Sgt. Ricky Evans at 295-0561 by Oct. 2.

Wounded warriors, Families invited to Hiring Heroes Career Fair

Fort Sam Houston will host the fourth Hiring Heroes Career Fair Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club. The fair will target service members wounded in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom and their families.

A resume-writing workshop will be held Monday for prospective job seekers from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club, to assist with creating or updating resumes needed for the fair. A workshop will be held today at the Brooke Army Medical Center in the IMD classroom. For more information, call Kim Goffar at 916-6284.

You are cordially invited to participate in the
Hiring Heroes Workshop & Career Fair
(Job opportunities for injured service members and their spouses.)

Sept. 17
Resume Writing Workshop, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sept. 18
Career Fair, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sam Houston Club
1395 Chafee Road
Fort Sam Houston, TX

Come to get help and learn how to write professional resumes. Talk with more than 50 Department of Defense, federal and private sector recruiters about opportunities in various civilian career fields. Potential employers can sign up for the career fair at www.godofense.com/conferences/hiringheroes/announcements.html; registration is free.

For more information, call Roland Umipeg at 1-888-363-4872, ext. 759

EXERCISE from P1

fire department, law enforcement, hazardous materials, dispatch, hospitals and public affairs.

"We'll be assessing command and control, interagency cooperation, communications, public information and IOC policies and procedures," McCarthy said.

The one-day Tempest Express is part of a "formal exercise process that builds on increasingly complex scenarios," he said.

The scenarios started with senior leaders' workshops in March and July, moved to

table top in August and will culminate with a full scale exercise Oct. 16 to 18, McCarthy said.

The exercises are being coordinated by DPTMS with help from the National Emergency Response and Rescue Training Center in College Station, Texas.

McCarthy added that the exercise Tuesday should be transparent to the post community, but people may experience slight delays at access control points if vigilance is increased.

For more information, call McCarthy at 221-0714.

WARRIOR CITIZEN from P4

"Many of you will never be the quite same. There can be no compensation for all the service you performed. That is why we call it selfless service," Gilman said. He added that employers are incalculably important. Employers of Army reserve members support long absence by key employees.

"This is the first multi-component hospital deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Medical personnel assigned to Brooke Army Medical Center and reserve medical personnel of the 228th trained and worked together to successfully accomplish the mission," Gilman said.

The unit also conducted split-based operations, another new concept. "The 228th is equal to any full-up active component hospital," Gilman added.

Addressing Czerw, Gilman noted the pre-

deployment training support provided by the Army Medical Department Center and School. "We are changing the way we fight medically even as we are evolving training. Training by the Center and School supported mission accomplishment."

Prior to the presentation of awards, McGilvray emphasized that the hospital comprised one-half active and reserve medical professionals from 33 different states providing world-class health care.

"Going to war makes us better Soldiers, better parents and we learn more about Family support," he said.

He concluded by thanking the Families. Reflecting about a mail call he observed in Mosul, he said, "We receive awards and recognition, but Families don't. We appreciate your support with letters and packages that put smiles on faces during mail call. We appreciate your service and sacrifices."



Smoke-free, courageous forever

Attend smoking cessation classes in the Health Promotion Center and learn how to find the courage to give up the nicotine habit forever, whether you smoke, dip or chew. Become one of our graduates and earn your "wings." Visit the Health Promotion Center, Room L31-9v, Brooke Army Medical Center, or call 916-3352 or 916-5538.

201st MI Bn. prepares for deployment to Iraq

Story and photo by Elaine Wilson
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

The Army's first joint debriefing and interrogation center battalion will deploy to Iraq this month after 17 months of training and preparation.

The Soldiers of the 201st Military Intelligence Battalion cased the battalion's colors Sept. 6 at MacArthur Parade Field in preparation for their departure. The colors will be unfurled upon their arrival in Iraq.

"When I scan the formation, I see mission focus, confidence, competence, determination and dedication to Family in each of your faces," said 470th Military Intelligence Brigade Commander Col. Cheryl Harris at the deployment ceremony. "The road to this day has been long and arduous but the end state will be exactly what each of you expected ... success."

The battalion has been preparing for the 15-month deployment since its inception April 12, 2006, with training exercises at Fort Sam Houston, Camp Bullis and Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

"They (the Soldiers) have proven that they are ready to excel as they set the standard as the Army's first JDIC battalion – responsible for interrogation operations," Harris said. "The team has been together from the genesis and it is befitting that they complete this task together."

The 201st MI Bn. is the first of four joint

interrogation battalions planned for the Army; the other three will stand up in the next several years. The battalion's mission is to conduct detainee screening and interrogation missions in support of military operations throughout the world.

In Iraq, the battalion's mission will be to provide interrogation support to the commander of Multinational Forces Iraq, said Maj. Christopher Tomlinson, battalion operations officer.

Once there, "the 201st will become a joint unit to fulfill a joint mission," said Tomlinson, adding that the battalion has trained with Airmen at Fort Huachuca. Those same Airmen will join the unit in Iraq.

"We're ready," Tomlinson said. "The training has been challenging but also very satisfying."

The battalion commander, Lt. Col. John Strycula, also expressed confidence in the Soldiers under his command. "They have excelled at every task and every mission they have been given," he said. "These Soldiers are ready to deploy to Iraq and shine as both Soldiers and intelligence professionals."

As leaders expressed their confidence in the Soldiers, they also extended their appreciation to the Family members left behind. Many were in attendance at the ceremony to support their loved ones.

See DEPLOYMENT P11



Five-year-old Thomas Minert and his sister, 3-year-old Kiara, hold U.S. flags in support of their dad, Spc. Todd Minert. Their mother, Kari, is the A Company, 201st Military Intelligence Battalion, Family Readiness Group leader. "Knowledge is power," said Kari, when asked how she is preparing for the separation. "I'm gathering information and will pass it on to all of the spouses."

RENOVATIONS from P1

accomplished, said Jack Hagans, Directorate of Public Works. "Two of the seven wings are finished, where we have taken two-person rooms and converted them into rooms for one."

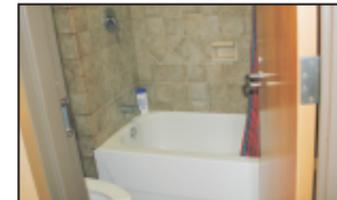
The original rooms had two small bedrooms, a common area and a full bath. The rooms were small and had sharp corners and angles to maneuver, not to mention they were dark, cold in appearance and not functional for wheelchairs.

Some of the rooms on the

first floor of Okubo Barracks have been renovated to one-person rooms with a living area, bedroom and wheelchair-accessible bath. Tubs were removed and tiled roll-in showers were installed with handicapped rails. Sinks are lower and left open beneath for easy reach and with room for knees and wheels. Closets were installed with lower rods for hanging clothing as well as lower shelving for storage and linens. Included in the upgrades are thresholds with ramps for rolling

wheels and easy entry into the rooms, a simple solution for a difficult maneuver, when confined to a wheelchair.

The seven wing barracks was built for warriors in transition and even though it is in essence a part of



Before renovations, the bath held a regular bathtub. With the changes, wheelchairs can easily roll into the shower allowing a measure of safety and normalcy for wounded warriors.



Photos by Cheryl Harrison

Pfc. Terrance McBride enjoys lounging in a recliner while in his room at Okubo Barracks. Family photos, personal items and a recliner add a coziness to his home away from home.

the hospital, the atmosphere around Okubo is that of apartment living. A few differences are evident; all floors are tiled, the laundry has washers and dryers that are lower than the norm, but it is a home away from home environment.

Behind the doors of the first-floor units is the temporary home of a wounded warrior. The entrance is wider and in some instances a key is not required. Burn victims, for instance, need only to swipe a pass key and the door will automatically open. Enter the common area or living room and notice an openness, lots of light and in the case of Pfc. Terrance McBride, a cozy place to call his own during healing and rehabilitation.

McBride was injured during a training incident while downrange. Both of his hips and legs were crushed and the right leg broken so severely, amputation below

the knee was McBride's only hope of walking again.

McBride's first floor apartment displays family photos, personal items and even a recliner that he enjoys while watching television.

When asked if he was comfortable in his renovated room, McBride responded, "I can't complain at all, a lot of people fix it to their liking. I bought myself a recliner from the PX. One guy I know has a futon sofa in his room."

"I get along pretty well. I've been up and walking for about four months now. Everything is different now, and I just have to alter the way I do things," added McBride.

Rob "Robbie" Robinson, facility manager, Okubo Barracks, acted as tour guide, showing the before and after rooms. He also pointed out the changes and highlighted what was done and still needs to be done.

"For future renovations, recliners are on the list. I also recommended lighter wall colors rather than the issued gray. It gives a better feel, and all new furniture is being planned," said Robinson.

"In the very near future, the Fort Worth District Corps of Engineers will award a construction contract to replicate the current handicap friendly design to the first floor of Wing G of Building 3631 and the first floors of Wings A and B of Building 3635 by Sept. 30. This will add an additional capacity of 28 rooms to the current 36 rooms that have already been renovated. The project is scheduled for completion in the third quarter of fiscal year 2008," added Hagans.

Okubo Barracks was named for Technician 5th Grade James K. Okubo, who distinguished himself while serving as a medic with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Over the course of two days in October of 1944, with enemy fire, minefields and road blocks, Okubo heroically came to the aid of about 25 battle buddies. Then a few days later, on Nov. 4, he saved the life of a wounded crewman from a burning tank. For his gallantry, Okubo was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Okubo's name honors the halls of Building 3631, temporary home of today's wounded warriors and America's heroes.

CRIME WATCH from P2

when trapped, and the traps are checked daily. If there is a trap in your area and you observe an animal inside of it, please call the police and we will notify the individual responsible for the trap to come and pick up the animal.

Sticky fingers

There were three individuals apprehended for shoplifting at the Main Exchange. Thieves have struck at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center three times in the last two weeks, stealing more than \$800 worth of items including cash, cameras, jewelry and cell phones, all from unsecured lockers. Other locations include Building 1350 and 3635 (barracks), a home on Kimbro Circle, the swimming pool, stables, the Center for the Intrepid and the parking lot adjacent to the Golf Pro Shop. Items stolen include a laptop, cameras, shotguns, cash, wallets, a music player, saddle and tools. Over half of these were items that were left unsecured.

Drugs, alcohol apprehensions

Ten Soldiers were apprehended for drug use or possession in the last two weeks. Some of the drugs included cocaine, marijuana and heroin. Command staff and parents should be aware that some items that a person using drugs might have in their

possession are small mirrors, razor blades, glass tubes or small metal pipes, cigars, plastic baggies, rolling papers and syringes.

Also apprehended were six individuals, including three Soldiers, two non-affiliated civilians and one Family member, for driving while intoxicated.

Upcoming events

October will be a busy month for both the fire department and the police. Fire Prevention Week will be held the week of Oct. 7 to 13. This year's theme for Fire Prevention Week is "Practice Your Escape Plan." The theme focuses on how to plan and practice escape from a home if a fire occurs. October is also Crime Prevention Month. Police and McGruff will be out in various locations. More information will be forthcoming on these events.

If you have a comment about the police or fire department, visit the Interactive Customer Evaluation Web site at http://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=service_provider_list&site_id=450. To make a comment about the fire department, use the search feature in the upper right corner and type "fire," or scan the list. For police, search for Provost Marshal or scan the list. Fill out the form and click send. These comment cards are reviewed by the director. Please make sure you put in your contact information if you would like to be contacted.

Suicide prevention: Watch out for your buddy

By J.D. Leipold
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — In conjunction with National Suicide Prevention Week Sept. 9 to 15, the Army wants Soldiers and their Families to know help is available to those struggling with issues that sometimes bring about suicide.

"This year's strategy focuses on three key points — training the Army Family in positive life skills, buddy care and counseling through a variety of ways," said Army Chief of Chaplains Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Douglas Carver. "I think educating our leaders, Soldiers and Families on what to look for in suicidal behaviors has made our people more sensitive and aware."

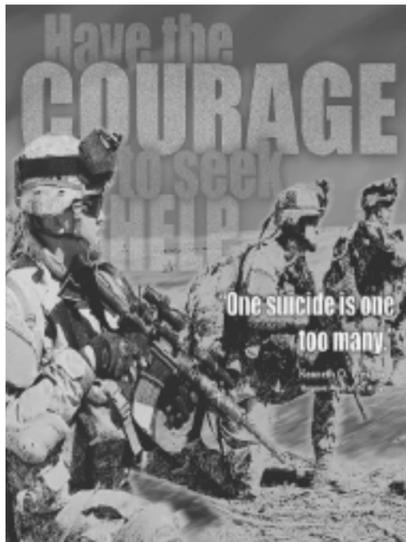
Soldiers who commit suicide usually do so because they can't see another way

out of a painful situation, Carver said. Frequent and longer deployments add yet more burden, especially on relationships, he said.

"We've looked pretty closely at all the various factors involved in Soldier suicide — failed relationships, this long war," said Carver. "Yet the morale of our Soldiers is as high as it's ever been because they sense the importance of their mission down-range and they look out for one another."

Still, Soldiers in-theater need to be aware and in-tune with their fellow Soldiers, he cautioned.

"You might notice alterations in personal behavior or emotional changes in atti-



Courtesy photo
Photo of the Army's Suicide Prevention Poster

tude that are just very different from how you know that person," he said. "If you sense something is wrong, one of the greatest things

you can do with your battle buddy is say, 'Hey, how are you doing?' Begin to probe. That may open an opportunity for that Soldier to express what's going on in his life.

"As you begin to care for your buddy, you may realize he or she has issues you can't handle yourself, so the next step is to take the time to ensure they're given proper care, which is where we as chaplains come in," Carver said. "Soldiers should physically escort troubled buddies to a chaplain who is trained in sui-

cide prevention and takes care of the soul of our Soldiers and Family members."

If the chaplain can't

help, the struggling Soldier will be provided treatment from community counseling and the medical community.

Carver pointed out that with the operational tempo of the Army and the associated stresses it places on Soldiers and their relationships with loved ones, suicide prevention is not just a one-week effort.

"As the chief of chaplains and the senior pastor of the Army, my greatest concern is that we watch out for one another and take care of one another," Carver said. "That's the beauty of the Army community because we're all in this together. Every Soldier and every Family member is important ... everyone in the Army matters."

For more on suicide prevention, visit <http://www.armyg1.army.mil/HR/suicide/training.asp>.

DEPLOYMENT from P6

"Today is a bittersweet moment for the Families," Harris said. "Although emotional about the departure of their Soldiers, you can still see pride in their faces as they truly embrace the meaning of sacrifice by unselfishly sharing their beloved Soldier with the unit, the Army, the United States and the world."

As a symbol of their support, the Families in attendance were invited to stand beside their Soldier on the field following the ceremony.

"This action symbolizes their critical role in the development and growth of this battalion," Strycula said. "They are a vital element of this battalion and are full partners in the successes that we have achieved because none of it would be possible without their undying and unwavering support."

Along with their loved ones, the Soldiers will have another much-appreciated source of ongoing support — the city of Fair Oaks Ranch, Texas. The city adopted the battalion in August, marking the occasion with an Aug. 24 celebration for the Soldiers that included horseback rides, music and a barbecue.

"We plan to stay in close contact with the commander, sergeant major and chaplain so we can find out what the Soldiers need," said E.L. Boots Gaubatz, mayor of Fair Oaks Ranch, located about 25 miles northwest of San Antonio. "We don't want to just send candy bars; we want to provide things that are real, such as sending a letter to a Soldier who hasn't gotten one yet. We're counting on the leaders to keep us informed."

Chief Warrant Officer Bud Holzman, citizen of Fair Oaks Ranch and counterintelligence instructor, suggested the idea of the adoption to the city as a way to show community support of military members.

"I want to support the troops any way I can," said Holzman, who said he was poorly treated upon his return from Vietnam. "Ever since then, I vowed to do whatever I could."

Although the battalion has yet to leave, Harris said she is looking forward to the day the Soldiers safely return. "Black Knights, do what you have been trained to do. Be ambassadors for the United States and, at the completion of your mission, expeditiously return home to your brigade and your Families. And don't worry, we will remain ever vigilant, keeping the light on for you."



WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIQUIDATE YOUR CREDIT CARD DEBT? IT CAN HAPPEN.

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

Sponge Bob open wide



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Gerald Bradford

Spcs. Latoya Adams and Anthony Moten help Sponge Bob Square Pants pass on tips for good oral hygiene to pre-kindergarten children at the Child Development Center. Students from the Preventive Dentistry Course, Army Medical Department Center and School, visited the CDC in late August to talk about healthy snacks and proper dental care using puppets, skits and popular TV star Sponge Bob.

Sports Briefs

Lock up valuables at gym

Several wallets have been stolen at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. Gym visitors are advised to lock up their valuables. The Jimmy Brought offers free lock boxes in the gym entrance and also rents out lockers on an annual basis. For more information, call 221-2020.

Fitness classes

A muscle conditioning class, which includes total body strength training, is offered Fridays from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center.

A total body conditioning class, comprising 50 minutes of cycling and 30 minutes of core conditioning, is held Saturdays from 9 to 10:20 a.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. For more information, call the fitness center at 221-2020.

Missions Heritage 5K Run/Walk

The American Indians in Texas at the Spanish Colonial Missions organization will sponsor the Missions Heritage 5K Run/Walk plus Indian Festival and Market Sunday at Mission San Jose in San Antonio. The run/walk will start at 7:30 a.m. followed by a festival and market at 10 a.m. Two-time world boxing champion, Jesse James Leija, will appear at the event. For more information, call 227-4940.

Golf tournament

The San Antonio Chapter of the National Defense Transportation Association will host its 22nd Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament Sept. 21 at Randolph Oak Golf Course, Randolph Air Force Base. Complete details and entry application are available on the Chapter's Web site at http://home.att.net/~alamondta/golf_flyer2007.htm. For more information, call Stephen Rohrbough at 262-7026.

5K Fun Run/Walk

A 5K Fun Run/Walk will be held Sept. 22 at 9 a.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. The registration fee is \$10 per person. For more information or to register, call Will Lloyd or Lucian Kimble at 221-2020 or 221-1234.

Fort Sam Houston Army Dillo

The Fort Sam Houston Army Dillo will be held Sept. 23 at 7:30 a.m. at the Brigade Gym. To register or for more information, call 221-2020 or 221-1234.

Fort Sam Houston Golf Club in full swing

The Fort Sam Houston Golf Club is not waiting until November to begin offering more programs for Soldiers, Families, civilians and members of the San Antonio community. Since the reopening of the Salado Del Rio Golf Course in January, the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club has already seen returns on their investment into the 6,500-plus yard course. The Salado course is consistently used by the military and civilian companies to host tournaments, and also provides a relaxing and competitive golf environment.

The La Loma Grande course, which was closed during the second phase of renovation, is tentatively scheduled to reopen in November. The La Loma course was closed for renovations of the greens, tee boxes and bunkers. The La Loma course is the only military golf course that has hosted a PGA event, in addition to two Texas Open tournaments.

As the golf club gets in full swing for the grand opening, several events will take place between now and then. The Fort Sam Houston Golf Club is partnering with Ping Inc. to host a special "Ping Demo Day" Sept. 26 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ping Golf will be

on site at the golf club showcasing their "Demo Van," which assists golfers in selecting the perfect set of clubs. Ping Golf will also bring the latest in golf technology including an \$80,000 ball launch monitor and more than 500 of the newest golf clubs for golfers to test. Several members of the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club, Ping

technicians and sales representatives will be on site to custom fit golfers and assist them with the selection of clubs that are best suited for their game.

In addition to the "Ping Demo Day," the golf club will also host another "demo day" Oct. 19 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Golf manufacturers currently scheduled to attend include Ben Hogan, Callaway, Nike Golf, Ping and Top Flite. Folks are invited to come out to the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club and try the latest golf clubs on the market and take advantage of special pricing available on both "demo day" purchases and special orders. The Fort Sam Houston Golf Club, which oversees both the Salado Del Rio and La Loma Grande courses, are open to the general public. In addition to "demo days," the golf club also offers several activities for golfers of all levels including private lessons, specialty clinics and a junior golfers program. For more information, call the Pro Shop at 221-5863 or 222-9386 or visit http://www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com/bod/golf_club.

(Source: Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation)



Volunteer positions open to military

Golf San Antonio and the Valero Corporation have provided a limited number of free tickets for military volunteers to attend the Valero Texas Open Oct. 4 to 7 at the La Cantera Resort Course in San Antonio. Professional golfers will compete for a \$4 million dollar purse.

Military personnel can volunteer to work at the Texas Open and receive special PARTner perks. Valero Texas Open (VTO) PARTners are volunteers who assist the Golf San Antonio staff in the operation of this PGA Tour event. To sign up for the PARTners program online, visit www.golfsanantonio.org and click the link "2007 PARTner application." There is also a link on the Fort Sam Houston MWR Web site; visit www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com and click on the Valero Texas Open logo.

The La Cantera Resort Course is located just northwest of the intersection of Interstate Highway 10 West and Loop 1604. The course and resort are accessible from either one of these main highways via the La Cantera Parkway exit. Fort Sam Houston MWR is currently under negotiations to obtain passes for military and Family members to attend the Texas Open. Tickets can be picked up at MWR facilities when available.

Blood is fluid of life

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

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

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



MWR Community Recreation

Saturday vaccine clinic

The Fort Sam Houston Veterinary Clinic will hold a vaccine clinic Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. To schedule an appointment, call 295-4260 or 295-4265.

3-D archery shoots

The next 3-D archery shoots will be held Saturday and Sunday with registration 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 woodland settings. Awards are given to the top three in each class. The cost is \$15 per person on both days. A non-competitive shoot will be held Sunday only; the cost is \$10. Minis and cubs shoot free with a paid adult and a playground is available for younger children. For more information, call the Camp Bullis Outdoor Recreation Center at 295-7577.

Fall Fest

The Fort Sam Houston Fall Fest will be held Oct. 13 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The event provides a variety of games, food booths, activities and entertainment. The festival's parade begins at noon in front of the old officer's club on Dickman Road. Sprint will be on hand with NASCAR race simulators. Experience driving

one of six NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series Tracks in either the Dale Earnhardt, Jr. #8 or Tony Stewart #20 cars. Sprint will give away prizes for the top three racers in the simulators. For more information, call 221-3185.

Cottages at Canyon Lake

The cottages at Canyon Lake are available for public use. Reservations are being accepted for the new 1,200-square-foot facilities. The new three-bedroom cottages are fully furnished and equipped with central heating and air conditioning, a barbecue pit and kitchen with appliances. Each cottage has a parking space, front porch and picnic table. For more information or to make a reservation, call 830-226-5357 or 888-882-9878.

Golf Course, 222-9386

Junior golf clinics

Junior golf clinics will be held each Sunday in September from 9 to 10 a.m. for ages 10 to 17. The fee for each session is \$7 per student which includes golf balls. For more information, call James Benites at 355-5429 or 222-9386.

Bowling Center, 221-3683

Bowlers wanted

The bowling center is taking registrations for fall and winter adult bowling leagues. For more information on individual leagues and start dates, call the bowling center at 221-4740.

Dining and Entertainment

Sam Houston Club, 224-2721

Family-style Sunday Brunch

Sunday Brunch will be held Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club for the entire family. Features include a chocolate fondue station, complimentary champagne and an international food station. For more information, call 224-2721.

Super TGIF

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at the Sam Houston Club Sept. 21 at 4:30 p.m. with drink specials, free food and Latino music. For more information, call 224-2721.

Harlequin Dinner Theatre, 222-9694

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre will present "Last of the Red Hot Lovers," a comedy by Neil Simon, through Oct. 6. Tickets are \$28 Wednesdays and Thursdays and \$31 Fridays and Saturdays. Doors open for salad bar and cocktails at 6:15 p.m., the buffet is open from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and the show begins at 8 p.m. Military discounts are available. For more information or to make reservations, call 222-9694.

MWR Ticket Office, 226-1663

The MWR Ticket Office has discounted tickets for Splashtown. The tickets are \$8 for daily entrance. Discounted tickets for SeaWorld, as well as many other attractions, are also available. The ticket office is open Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and closed Sundays and Mondays.

For more information, visit www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com or call 221-1663 or 224-2721.

Operation Rising Star

The Hacienda Recreation Center, with the assistance of Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, will present Operation Rising Star Sept. 25 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The finals will be held Sept. 26 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Contestants will be critiqued by a panel of judges ranging from vocalists to local TV personalities. The audience will vote for the favorite contestant the night of the finals and enter into drawings for prizes including T-shirts, free music downloads, MP-3 players and a portable DVD player with an Apple iPod dock. For more information, call 224-7250.

Army Community Service

Army Family Team Building

Army Family Team Building encourages new spouses, Family members, Soldiers and Department of the Army civilians to find out about Army life. For more information, call Alicia at 807-3111 after 5 p.m.

AFTB Level 3

Army Family Team Building Level 3 teaches effective communication, listening skills, coaching, mentoring, advising, developing presentations, building a cohesive team, group conflict management, media and public relations and much more. A three-day course will be held Wednesday, Sept. 20 and 21 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. For more information or to register, call ACS at 221-0946.

MWR Child and Youth Services

Day for Kids Block Party

The Day for Kids Block Party will be held Saturday at the Youth Center. The event will feature food, fun and music. For more information, call 221-3502.

Parent/staff vs. youth basketball games

The Youth Center will host parent/staff vs. youth basketball games Sept. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the Youth Center Gym. Refreshments will be served at the end of play. For more information, call 221-3502.

Parent Advisory Council

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

FCC providers

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

Off-post childcare options

The Army Child Care in Your Neighborhood program offers military Families more childcare options in the local community. There are two childcare centers and 25 civilian providers in surrounding areas of Fort Sam Houston available for use by local Army Families. The centers and providers are monitored to ensure they meet Army standards. For more information, call the Family Service Association at 431-7570 or Fort Sam Houston Central Registration at 221-4871.

Family Child Care Online

Family Child Care Online is a marketing tool that allows parents to take a virtual tour of FCC homes. In addition, parents can read about the provider's philosophy of care, hours of operation and background. This online tool can be accessed week-

days from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Child and Youth Services Central Registration, Building 2797.

CYS needs instructors

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

Sport physicals

Patrons interested in winter sports should make appointments for sport physicals now. Patrons will need a sport physical to register. Sport physicals must be valid for the entire sport season. Patrons must be registered with Child and Youth Services to participate in sports. For more information or registration requirements, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723.

Instructors needed for SKIES

Fort Sam Houston Child and Youth Services Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills needs instructors to teach children ages 3 to 18 in the following areas: life skills, citizenship and leadership; as well as academic skills, mentoring and intervention. Instructors must successfully pass background checks. Cardio pulmonary resuscitation, first aid, and other age-appropriate classes will be provided to the instructor at no charge. For more information, call 295-4806.

SKIES Unlimited classes

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

PCI, Head Start applications available

Parent Child Incorporated and Head Start is currently accepting applications. This is a free childcare program for Families that meet federal guidelines. For more information, call 221-3788.

Sgt. Michael Hicks and Spc. Andrew Adam pipette, or draw up, a portion of a dilution to transfer to another location. Hicks said he was excited to head back to Fort Lewis, Wash., and test out his new skills. "I'll be the first to establish the lab," he said.



Photos by Maj. Margery Hanfelt



Chief Warrant Officer Paul Ray teaches Sgt. Davy Mericle, Spc. Courtney Thomas, Sgt. Amanda Williams and Spc. Jennifer Flanagan how to conduct the chemical screening process for Beta-lactam, or antibiotic, in milk. "If cattle get sick and are treated with antibiotics, there are withdrawal times so medicine doesn't present itself in the milk," said Maj. Margery Hanfelt, chief, Food Safety and Defense Branch. "The screening process ensures the withdrawal time is accomplished and the milk is free of the antibiotic."



Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Gill explains the sub-sampling procedure to Spc. Annalea Toller, Spc. Diego Reyes and Sgt. Abed Agbemashior. Sub-sampling is taking a small portion that is representative of the original sample. For instance, "if there's a 20-ounce steak, you can't plate the whole thing, so we do a representative sub-sample," said Maj. Margery Hanfelt, chief, Food Safety and Defense Branch, Department of Veterinary Sciences.

Taking a bite out of food-borne illnesses

Army food inspectors learn new trade

By Elaine Wilson
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

Army food inspectors are taking a bigger bite out of food- and water-borne illnesses these days with better equipment and the skills to match.

The Army Medical Department Center and School just wrapped up a new two-week Veterinary Food Surveillance Laboratory course that teaches inspectors how to conduct tests on food and bottled water using a portable kit that serves as a surveillance food testing laboratory.

"For the first time, we're teaching technicians how to conduct microbiological and chemical tests on food and bottled water for indicators of safety and wholesomeness," said Maj. Margery Hanfelt, chief, Food Safety and Defense Branch, Department of Veterinary Sciences, Army Medical Department Center and School.

The training marks a shift for food inspectors, who, up till now, had to base their suspicion of compromised or contami-

nated food and bottled water on observations and hunches vs. scientific fact.

Army food inspectors, who fall under VETCOM, inspect food, conduct quality assurance inspections and ensure military and commercial facilities are sanitary. Under normal procedures, "when food is received, inspectors check the temperature, date of pack and make sure it's from an approved source," said Chief Warrant Officer Paul Ray, senior instructor/writer, Food Safety and Defense Branch, Department of Veterinary Sciences, AMEDDC&S.

Army inspectors bring the same observational skills to places like commissaries, warehouses and shoppettes, where, in the absence of scientific proof, they rely on instinct and best educated guesses as they survey food intended for human consumption or walk down a store aisle. They also, upon request by a food analysis and diagnostic laboratory, "randomly select representative food samples for surveillance, whether it's ice cream, a sandwich or salad, or other potentially hazardous foods and send them off for testing," Ray said.

In any case, if inspectors suspect a problem, they take samples, pack them up and ship them off to one of only two accredited food laboratories in the U.S. military - one at Fort Sam Houston, the Department of Defense Food Analysis and Diagnostic Laboratory, and the other in Germany, Veterinary Laboratory Europe.

However, with the kit and the skills to use it, food inspectors

now have "the tools needed to conduct surveillance testing of food and bottled water on site," said Hanfelt, who said some of the kits already have been shipped out worldwide and simply await trained technicians to put them to good use.

The on-site testing not only roots out problems on the spot, but also saves the Army time and money.

Sample shipping alone can take 24 to 48 hours and racks up hefty costs if overnight shipping is used, such as in the case of chilled or frozen food samples. Upon arrival at one of the labs, laboratory technicians must prioritize and conduct tests that can add up to two weeks depending on the type of tests being conducted.

But, with their new skills, food inspectors can not only provide increased surveillance on site, but also have a faster turn around time of only 24 to 48 hours for most of the basic screening tests. If the "count number" of a microbiological or chemical screening test organism exceeds the "action limit," then there is possible cause for concern. The senior food officer will then make a decision to retest or to send to a reference lab for confirmation and more extensive testing.

"In the meantime, we can put a hold on the food item until further testing is conducted," Ray said. "The kits enable us to make a determination much more quickly and with more factual basis."

The inspectors also avoid shipping out random samples to a reference laboratory since they can conduct their own surveil-

lance tests on site and only ship those with unacceptable indicators.

"Generally, we'll pick foods to test that have been manipulated, processed in some way, which makes them more at risk since they've been handled by people," said Ray, using the examples of ready-to-eat sandwiches, salads and cut produce.

Along with food, inspectors can also use the kits to check the cleanliness of food preparation surfaces, utensils and equipment.

"Before, we could only visually watch food prep in action and check the sanitizer strength," Ray said. "We can now actually check for indicator organisms that identify possible contamination or unsanitary conditions."

"Also, in 24 hours we can make a call on potential fecal contaminants and pesticide screening in bottled water, which is vital for safety overseas, particularly deployed locations," Ray said.

It's a win-win situation with Army dollars and manpower saved, and quicker results that can help prevent potentially deadly bacteria such as E. coli O157:H7 or Salmonella from reaching the public.

With the kit in locations worldwide, the newly trained technicians will return to their home station and pass on their new skills to co-workers.

"We have the equipment but aren't using it yet," said Sgt. Michael Hicks, a food inspector from the 218th Medical Detachment, 62nd Medical Brigade at Fort Lewis, Wash. "I'm

looking forward to getting back and setting it up."

Sgt. Zuri Hildreth said she was glad to be in on the ground floor of such a new concept. "By providing a first line of defense in the field, we can help with screening in support of the reference labs," said Hildreth, an inspector from the Pacific Northwest District, VETCOM, Fort Lewis.

"We're not only learning new skills, but also how to pass them on to others," she added. "I feel confident that even if I don't know the answer myself, I can find it."

Ray said the two-week course will be offered to food inspectors on a regular basis. Instructors already have integrated much of the material into initial entry training and advanced initial training for new food inspectors.

"It's a new course and a work in progress," said Ray. "But we'll take lessons learned and continue to improve it. Overall, it's been a great success."

"We're packing a lot of information into two weeks, but we want these technicians to be able to go back, set up a laboratory and train their co-workers and supervisors on how to run it," Ray added.

The course is a partnership between AMEDDC&S and U.S. Army Veterinary Command. Course development and technical trainers have been provided by the Department of Veterinary Science and the DoD Food Analysis and Diagnostic Laboratory food scientists. "The collaboration has provided a unique course with more than 70 percent hands-on practical training," Ray said.

Housing update

Contractors work to replace water mains in Patch, Chaffee area

The contractor replacing the deteriorated water mains beneath Service Road S-22, located between Patch and Chaffee roads, has been delayed due to the recent rains. The contractor is making every effort to get back on schedule, weather permitting.

Service Road S-22 will be closed to residents for safety and to minimize potential delay when construction is ongoing on their block. Residents are asked to keep their children and pets away from the work areas. Residents will have to park on the street in front of their homes. Trash containers and recycle bins will have to be placed in front of residents' homes during this time period. Also, residents will not have access to their garages during construction.

The water main replacement will be accomplished in three phases with the work in each phase accomplished by blocks. Phase I is from Wilson Road to Lawton Road and

includes the following:

- The homes affected will be 700 to 720 Patch Road and 751 to 771 Chaffee Road — only the units that back up to the service road.
- There will be a water outage for all Patch/Chaffee homes between Wilson and Taylor roads Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., weather permitting. The alternate date is Sept. 20.
- Complete the installation of the water line from Wilson Road to Taylor Road on or about Sept. 21. The service road will be repaired and repaved from Sept. 24 to Oct. 5.
- Boring under Taylor Road is scheduled to be completed by Tuesday. The homes affected will be 720, 722 and 724 Patch Road; and 771, 773 and 775 Chaffee Road.
- Boring under Schofield Road is estimated to begin Wednesday and be completed by Sept. 25. The homes affected will be 815 to 817 Patch Road and 851, 853 and 855 Chaffee Road.

- Boring under Harney Road is estimated to begin Sept. 26 and be completed by Oct. 3. The homes affected will be 824 to 826 Patch Road and 869 to 873 Chaffee Road. Residents will be able to access S-22 from Schofield Road.

- The replacement work from Taylor Road to Lawton Road is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 24 to Oct. 12. The service road will be repaired and repaved from Oct. 15 to 26. The homes affected are 722 to 734 Patch Road and 773 to 785 Chaffee Road.

Details will be provided closer to the start date for Phases II and III.

The existing water main will remain in service until all new work



by phase is completed and ready for service line connections. Residents will be notified of water outages when connections are sched-

uled.

Residents are encouraged to contact Lincoln Military Housing if they have concerns with the project or if they experience unannounced outages with their utilities or damages; call 270-7638.

ICE

Have feedback for a post customer service provider?

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

Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Weekly Campus Activities Monday to Sept. 22

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School
G.A.T.E. nominations all week
Friday
Spirit Day

Robert G. Cole Middle and High School
Tuesday
Volleyball at Dilley, freshmen at 5 p.m.; junior varsity at 6 p.m.; varsity at 7 p.m.

Wednesday
Middle school open house, 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 20
Junior varsity football vs. Navarro at Cole, 6 p.m.

Josten's ring order for junior class during lunch, Multi-purpose Room
Middle school pep rally at Moseley Gym

Sept. 21
Varsity volleyball at Gervin, 5 p.m.
Varsity football at Navarro, 7:30 p.m.

FSH Independent School District accepting nominations for Board of Trustees

The Fort Sam Houston Independent School District has a five member Board of Trustees nominated by the garrison commander and appointed by the State Board of Education.

Military personnel or their spouses and civilians employed on the installation may serve. A majority of the trustees must be civilians. The Board of Trustees is responsible for setting policy for the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District and making decisions based on the educational welfare of all children served by the district.

To be a board member, an individual must be a registered Texas voter and have lived in Texas for the past 12 months; must live or be employed by the installation; be willing to volunteer time and serve without compensation; must be prepared to serve a two-year

term of office; attend monthly board meetings; receive board training (about 20 hours the first year and eight hours thereafter; and support the Fort Sam Houston schools by attending special events and functions.

If interested in being considered for a position on the Board of Trustees, submit a resume with name, home and work addresses, home and work telephone numbers, marital status, ages of children (if any), educational and work background, community involvement, current association with school and any other information the applicant wishes to share by Oct. 5 to Headquarters, U.S. Army Garrison, ATTN: IMWE-SMH-MWC, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234-5020.

For more information, call Brenda Berry at 295-4806 or Keith Toney at 221-2214.

Dedication to family, nation



Photos by Jayne Hatton

Maj. Joseph Barber (left) conducts a reenlistment ceremony for Staff Sgt. Jesus Santiago, Headquarters and Headquarters

Detachment, 201st Military Intelligence Battalion, Sept. 4 in the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Middle School mall area. Santiago requested that the ceremony occur at the middle school so his children would understand the importance of service to country and the importance of education. Additionally, "I don't want to waste a single minute with my children," said Santiago, who will deploy to Iraq this month. "We always do a lot together. I didn't want to just send a picture of me reenlisting from downrange; I wanted to have a picture of us together."

(Inset photo) Staff Sgt. Jesus Santiago; his wife, Vilmarie; and their children, Angel Espada, Coralys, Jesus and Maria pose for a picture after Santiago's reenlistment in the middle school.

Emergency numbers

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

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

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

Cole High School announces new Junior ROTC leaders

By Cadet 2nd Lt. Katie Stonecipher
Cole Cougar Battalion Public Affairs Officer

Robert G. Cole High School had a great start to the new school year. With a new middle school, and soon to be finished gym and media center, the students are excited for the many adventures yet to come.

The Cole Junior ROTC Battalion has planned a year full of excellence and excitement. There are about 110 cadets in the Junior ROTC program who are ready to memorize the mandatory knowledge, learn and perfect marching drills, and represent Robert G. Cole High School in a way like no other. Plans for the year include: blood drives, Color Guard, Rifle Team and Physical Training competitions; the service learning project; annual Turkey shoot; Corps Day; Military Ball; and lastly, the end of the year spring awards.

The Cole High School JROTC Battalion is directed by retired Lt. Col. Robert Hoffman

and retired Sgt. 1st Class John Clinton.

The following cadets will lead Cole's JROTC program this year: Battalion Commander, Cadet Lt. Col. Frank Thompson; Battalion Executive Officer Cadet Maj. Lukas Sheridan; Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Cadet Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Griffith; S-1, Cadet Maj. Jenny Gibson; S-3, Cadet Maj. Ben Guerrero; S-4, Cadet 2nd Lt. Jessica Bagg; S-5, Cadet 2nd Lt. Katie Stonecipher; Assistant S-1, Cadet Master Sgt. Kelsey Charlton; and Assistant S-4, Cadet Staff Sgt. Kayla Barber.

Company commanders are: A Company, Cadet 2nd Lt. Jeremy Fuentes; B Company, Cadet 2nd Lt. Steven Wade; C Company, Cadet 2nd Lt. Nicole Gonzales; and D Company, Cadet 2nd Lt. Wesley Lavender.

First sergeants are A Company, Cadet 1st Sgt. Erika Maldonado; B Company, Cadet 1st Sgt. Richard Well; C Company, Cadet 1st Sgt. Patrick Lewis; and D Company, Cadet 1st Sgt. Timothy McCoole.

Correction: In the photo "First days of school" (Sept. 6 issue, Page 14) the name of Warrant Officer Christopher Prothero's wife is missing. Her name is Nicole.

School briefs

Meeting to discuss financial accountability rating

A public meeting of the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees will be held Sept. 27 at 11 a.m. in the Professional Development Center, 1908 Winans Road, San Antonio. The purpose of the meeting is to inform the district's community of its superior achievement rating based on School Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas. School FIRST is the Texas Education Agency's system developed to monitor and improve the management of the district's financial resources.

Cole Gridders roll to 2-0

The Robert G. Cole High School football team rolled to 2-0 Friday by smothering the St. Anthony Yellow Jackets 56-9 at Cougar Stadium. Led by Reggie Garnett's three touchdowns, and two by Will Vega, the Cougars romped to a 49-0 lead before a safety on a blocked punt put the Yellow Jackets on the board late in the third quarter. The Cougars play again Friday at 7:30 p.m. against their inter-service archrival Randolph Ro-Hawks at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

Cole parent volunteers needed

Robert G. Cole Middle and High schools are seeking parent volunteers for the 2007-2008 school year. The Cole Cougar Pride Club invites parents to join the "Cougar" family, volunteer in their area of interest and show some Cougar spirit. For more information or to volunteer, call Amy Newcomer at 379-5576 or Tammy Sees at 241-6303.

**For the chapel services schedule, visit
www.samhouston.army.mil/chaplain.**

Religion

Jewish High Holy Day services

Services for the Jewish Holy Days will be held as follows: Rosh Hashanah, today at 9 a.m. and 8 p.m., and Friday at 9 a.m.; Shabbat Shuvah, Friday at 8 p.m.; Kol Nidre, Sept. 21 at 6:30 p.m.; and Yom Kippur, Sept. 22 at 9 a.m.

Volunteers are needed for High Holy Day activities to prepare food for Kiddush/Oneg that follows the Rosh Hashanah services. Services will be conducted by Norton Shectman, Jewish lay leader of the Fort Sam Houston Jewish community. All services will be held at the Main Post Chapel, Building 2200, located on Wilson Avenue on Fort Sam Houston.

Personnel planning to attend services should make prior arrangements with their supervisors. Questions concerning religious practices may be addressed to the Jewish lay leader.

Soldiers needing transportation to and from services can call Shectman at 493-6660 or 379-8666. For more information, call Chaplain (Lt. Col.) James Benson at 221-2755 or Iva Winslow at 221-2754.

Islamic observance of Ramadan, Eid-UI-Fitr

Muslim military personnel will observe Ramadan, the Holy Month of Fasting, and Eid-UI-Fitr, the Festival of Fast Breaking, beginning today for 29 or 30 days. Religious practices for Muslims during the month of Ramadan include daily fasting from about 90 minutes before sunrise until after sunset. Eid-UI-Fitr is a three-day festival of thanksgiving and rejoicing, and is celebrated at the end of Ramadan. The Festival of Eid-UI-Fitr begins Oct. 11, depending on the lunar calendar. A liberal leave policy is recommended to allow service members and Department of Defense civilians to observe the celebrations. For more information, call 221-2755 or e-mail james.benson@us.army.mil.

PWOC Bible study

The Protestant Women of the Chapel invite all women to participate in the fall Bible study classes. Classes are held Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and Thursdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Dodd Field Chapel. Childcare is available up to age 5. For more information or a list of classes, call Paulette Jordan at 462-7676.

Bible club for children

The Installation Chaplain's Office will begin a new mid-week Bible club starting Wednesday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at Dodd Field Chapel for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. Register students at Dodd Field Chapel, 1721 Dodd Blvd., between Cole High School and School Age Services. For more information, call Robb Wood at 221-3749 or e-mail robb.wood@us.army.mil.

Women's retreat

The Gift of Grace women's retreat will be held Nov. 2 and 3 at the Hyatt Resort in Lost Pines, Texas. The retreat will start Nov. 2 at 6:30 p.m. with a gathering social and prayer and end Nov. 3 at 3:30 p.m. with a service. The suggested donation is \$40 per person. Spouses of deployed and wounded warriors are invited at no charge. For more information or to make a reservation, call Brian Merry at 221-5006 or e-mail brian.r.merry@us.army.mil.

Fort Freebies

Submission guidelines:

Freebies are published on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline is close of business Friday. Freebies are intended for per-

sonal household goods, and may only be submitted by active, retired or reserve military members and civilian employees working on Fort Sam Houston.

Real estate ads will not be published. To submit a Fort Freebie, e-mail news.leader@samhouston.army.mil or fax to 221-1198. Freebies

run for one week unless submitter calls to renew. Limit of five items per entry. For more information, call 221-1031.

For Sale: Boessling pool table, 8-foot, \$1,000 you pick up or \$1,400 with move and set up. Call Clyde at 295-4143 or 656-6466.

For Sale: 1997 Cadillac 32V Northstar SLS, excellent condition, \$7,950; 1969 Oldsmobile Delta 88 convertible, non-running, for parts or restoration, 455 engine with Rochester Quadrajel, custom dual exhaust, aluminum intake manifold, high-lift 3/4 race cam, wide rims on rear, \$450 and haul away. Call 650-4007.

For Sale: 1978 Playcraft, 24-foot pontoon party boat, completely rebuilt, all new furniture, 50HP motor. Call 648-2290.

For Sale: Collectible bears, \$10 each; 2000 Gund "Peace" bear in blue fleece hoodie; 2001 J.C. Penney Holiday Bear in red velvet dress and hat with bloomers; 2002 J.C. Penney Holiday Bear in blue velvet dress and hat with bloomers. Call 648-8290.

For Sale: Kenmore refrigerator, beige, 25 cubic-foot, side-by-side, ice maker, dispenses cubed or crushed ice, with light, \$500 obo; GE dishwasher, white, works fine, \$75 obo; GE four burner standard electric range with timer and self cleaning, \$200 obo. Call Julie Gueller at 618-8457.

For Sale: 2005 Harley Davidson Dyna Low Rider, low miles with tons of extra chrome and custom parts, \$14,000 obo. Call 945-7627.

For Sale: Dress Blue uniform, jacket 44R, pants 38R; E-7 rank with 15 year stripes already sewn, excellent condition, \$160 obo. Call 548-2701.

For Sale: 2000 Volkswagen Beetle GLS Turbo, luxury package, 86,400 miles, 1.8L, 150 HP, front wheel drive, four cylinder fuel injected, turbo, five speed manual transmission, with overdrive, A/C, alarm, new stereo, power sunroof, new clutch, yellow with gray cloth interior, \$8,500; 2000 Chevrolet Express G1500 Regency custom van, 64,100 miles, 5.7 V-8, automatic transmission with overdrive, dual A/C, seats seven, four reclining captain's chairs, rear seat folds flat, blue with tan leather interior, \$10,500. Call 659-7986, 262-6532 or 262-6536.

For Sale: Pekingese puppy, eight weeks, shots/dewormer, \$395; mix Boston terrier puppy, \$95; male and female beagles, \$95; Pac-N-Play playpen, \$45; exercise equipment, \$50 and up. Call 633-3859.

For Sale: Ballroom dance lessons, introduction package, three private lessons, \$100. Call 525-8980.

For Sale: 1983 Honda Night Hawk 650, great gas mileage, windshield, \$1,500 obo. Call 865-4772 or 637-7510.

For Sale: Kimball upright console piano, excellent condition, \$1,200. Call 370-3123.

For Sale: Twin, white, sleigh bed with matching dresser, mirror and nightstand, \$300; twin comforter and dust ruffle, blue space design, \$25; ladies suits and formals size 10/12, \$25 each; girls clothes, size 16, \$5 to \$15. Call 826-0882.

For Sale: Dining set, solid oak pedestal table, 48-inch round extends to 66-inch oval with 18-inch leaf, includes four chairs, medium finish, \$275. Call Anne 945-8577.

For Sale: Whirlpool bisque color microwave (micro hood), \$200 obo; Whirlpool bisque stove, \$300 obo; Whirlpool dishwasher, bisque color, \$200 obo. Call 490-0922.

For Sale: Solid oak desk, good condition, \$450 obo; black with glass TV stand with shelf for DVD/VCR, \$50. Call Eva at 916-3626.

For Sale: Computer desk, \$35; office chair, \$20; complete single bed, \$195; couch, \$120; bookshelf, \$15. Call Sandy at 241-1291.

For Sale: German marble coffee table, \$150; triple dresser, \$75; chest of drawers, \$55; desk and hutch, \$50; heavy duty wood bunk beds, \$200. Call 535-4412.

For Sale: 2004 Nissan Sentra SE RS Spec V, six-speed with upgraded wheels and tires, 32K miles, \$11,995. Call 221-8455, 662-9263 or 334-1816.

For Trade: Owner of 2005 Chevy Avalanche, XON Custom Chrome 20-inch rims, seeks an Avalanche owner with stock rims wanting to upgrade, willing to trade my rims and tires for stock rims and tires. You pay for mount and balance. Call 945-7627 for details.

Community Garage Sale: The Protestant Women of the Chapel and the Fort Sam Houston Chaplains' Spouses will co-sponsor a garage sale Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 4311 Lakeway Drive just outside of Kirby. All proceeds go to the Walker Baptist Church for a memorial fund set up in the name of Brittany Leann Gilmore.

COMMUNITY

Events

'Tell Your Story' program

The U.S. Army Women's Foundation is having a "Networking, Connecting and Reminiscing" social today from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club. "Tell Your Story" is the U.S. Army Women's Foundation history program. Military women are invited to come and tell their story. Light refreshments will be served with a cash bar. For more information or to register, call April Booth at 804-734-4996, e-mail a booth@awfdn.org or visit www.armywomensfoundation.org/.

Financial readiness for first term Soldiers

Financial Readiness First Term Soldier Online Training will be held today and Tuesday from 12 to 4 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. Sessions will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays on the first and second week of each month. The mandatory training provides first term Soldiers with tools and information on money matters. The course also can be taken online at <https://www.myarmylifetoo.com>; select Money Matters to register. It is recommended Soldiers use the computer lab at ACS to complete the course. To register, call Roderick Durden, financial readiness coordinator, at 221-1612.

Spouses' Club

The Spouses' Club will host a luncheon Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the Sam Houston Club. A special presentation of jewelry sales by James Quality Jewelers from Bangkok, Thailand, will be in the ballroom from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Everyone is invited and total jewelry sales will be donated to the Spouses' Club Welfare and Scholarship Fund. For more information and lunch reservations, call Sigrid Reitsstetter at 226-8806 or e-mail Sigrid.reitsstetter@us.army.mil.

NCO night

The SMA Leon Van Autre Sergeants

Major Association and the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club will sponsor the 2nd Annual Fort Sam Houston NCO Night Friday at 5 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club. The cost is \$2 per ticket, which includes refreshments and door prizes. All ranks and services are invited to attend. Enjoy an evening of fellowship, camaraderie and good old-fashioned esprit de corps. For more information, call Master Sgt. Istre at 332-0722 or Master Sgt. Kelsey at 221-4027.

Cash and Carry Sale

A Cash and Carry Sale of Non Appropriated Fund property will be held Wednesday and Sept. 20 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Building 4192, Bays A and C. People can pay by personal check or cash with picture ID. All sales are final. Items must be removed at the time of purchase. Items for sale include microwave ovens, desk chairs, computer monitors, TV and computer hutches, night-stands, executive desks, filing cabinets, commercial cooking equipment and much more. For a complete list of property, e-mail ohaver1@earthlink.net. For more information, call the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Warehouse at 221-4449 or 221-4950.

Reintegration, reunion briefing

A reintegration and reunion briefing and discussion for Families preparing for a Soldier to return home from deployment will be held Sept. 20 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. Spouses, parents and extended Family members are welcome. For more information or to register, call Sue York at 221-9821 or Jutta Aviles at 221-0946.

Pre-deployment briefing

A pre-deployment briefing will be held for Families preparing for a Soldier's deployment Sept. 20 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. Attendees will receive a family preparation checklist and other materials. For more information or to register, call Sue York at 221-9821 or Jutta Aviles at 221-0946.

Special emphasis programs

The Federally Employed Women Alamo City Chapter #123 will hold an Equal Employment Opportunity Program Sept. 20 and What is Sexual Harassment Oct. 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club, 1395 Chafee Road. The guest speaker will be Maria Preda, Special Emphasis Program manager. Lunch will be available for a nominal fee and the event is open to the public. For more information or reservations, call Roz Wise at 820-8201 or Carol Rouse 699-9363.

Military Officers Association of America

The MOAA Chapter will celebrate Oktober Fest with a picnic supper Sept. 26 at 5:30 p.m. at the Eberle Park, Randolph Air Force Base. Tickets are \$20 per person and MOAA-AC polo shirts will be available for \$25. For more information and reserva-

tions, call 228-9955 or e-mail moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net by noon Sept. 24.

Craft Fair

The 17th Annual Holly Days Craft Fair will be held Oct. 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church, 16245 Nacogdoches Road. Admission is free. For more information, call 654-3411.

Meetings

Disabled American Veterans

The D.A.V. Alamo Chapter #5 and Auxillary Unit #5 will hold their next meeting Saturday at 10 a.m. at the Rolling Oaks Christian Church, 7150 Stahl Road, located at Loop 1604 at Nacogdoches Road behind Wal-Mart. For more information, call Cmdr. Albert Erazo at 651-7303 or Adjutant Duke Hendershot at 830-624-1949.

Sergeant Audie Murphy Club

The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club will meet Sept. 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club. The luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. and the meeting at 12 p.m. All members are invited to attend; new members should call ahead. For more information, call Sgt. 1st. Class Diana Istre at 221-9925.

FamilyStrong

The FamilyStrong Military Families monthly focus group will be held Sept. 27 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 711 E. Josephine, in the Center for Health Care Services Building. For more information, call Norma Arriaga at 299-8139, ext. 247.

Training

FRG Leadership Training

A two-day Family Readiness Group Leadership Training will be held today and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. For more information or to register, call Sue York at 221-9821 or Jutta Aviles at 221-0946.

Army Knowledge Online Training

Army Knowledge Online hands-on training will be held Sept. 26 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. in Building 2841, Room 2105C; Sept. 26 and 27, and Oct. 17 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. in Building 2841, Room 2105C. Training will include: My account, user profiles, white pages, searching, quick links, self service, files, sitemap and knowledge network. For more information, call Julie Gueller at 221-6203 or e-mail julie.gueller@us.army.mil.