

# FORT SAM HOUSTON News Leader

"HOME OF ARMY MEDICINE"

## Best of the best compete for '2008 Best Warrior'

Story and photo by Esther Garcia  
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs Office

Six warriors from Fort Sam Houston spent three days competing against each other to win the title 2008 Fort Sam Houston Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier "Best Warrior" of the Year.

Held at Camp Bullis the competition consisted of a fifty question examination, a written essay, physical fitness test, day and night urban orienteering, weapons qualification, short range marksmanship, warrior tasks, a mystery event, and the administrative board.

The first day of the actual

competition began Saturday at 3:15 a.m. at Camp Bullis and ended at 10:30 p.m. This day included the physical fitness test, fifty question examination, a written essay, day and night urban orienteering, and zero and short range marksmanship qualification range, which made for a long day.

The day and night urban orienteering is something new that has never been tried before here at Fort Sam Houston. Loaded with more than 50 pounds of gear that included carrying their M16 rifle, the candidates were provided with

See **BEST WARRIOR P14**



Sgt. 1st Class Johnathan Amos, Safety Officer, checks Spc. Omar Alvidrez's weapon as the candidates prepare for the short range marksmanship competition at Camp Bullis. Six candidates competed for the 2008 Fort Sam Houston Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year "Best Warrior" competition that began Dec. 7 at Camp Bullis.

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## Watkins Terrace opens community center



(From left) Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw, commanding general, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston, Allison McKay and Bruce Peterson, Lincoln Military Properties, Mary Pat Stumberg, Theresa Elhabr, U.S. Army Garrison and Command Sgt. Maj. Howard Riles, AMEDDC&S, prepare to cut the ribbon Dec. 6 on the second of three community centers for Lincoln Military Housing communities.

Story and photo by Cheryl Harrison  
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Center

With temperatures chilly enough to warrant coats and gloves and signs of the upcoming holidays everywhere, the Medical Command Band entertained guests with "Frosty the Snowman" and other holiday favorites before the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Watkins Terrace community center Thursday.

Special guests for the ceremony were Michelle Czerw, Mary Pat Stumberg, Col. John Cook, commander, 32nd Medical Brigade, Col. Thomas Smith, deputy director, Installation Management Command

West, Doug Dupree, Association of the U.S. Army, Richard Wynot, Society for the Preservation of Historic Fort Sam Houston, Greg Oveland, president, Eisenhower Bank, Col. Karen Judkins, Staff Judge Advocate, Command Sgt. Maj. Howard Riles, AMEDD Center and School, Command Sgt. Maj. Pedro Class, U.S. Army Garrison, Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Paskos, commandant NCO Academy and Dee Johnson, San Antonio Credit Union.

Following introductions, Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw, commanding general U. S. Army Medical Center and School said, "Thank you for coming today to celebrate this wonderful community

See **COMMUNITY CENTER P6**

**NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS:** NEWS.LEADER@CONUS.ARMY.MIL

# Stay MEDCOM, stay Army

Story and photo by Jen Rodriguez  
Brooke Army Medical Center Public  
Affairs Office



(From left) Capt. Micheal Inman, Troop Command led the Oath of Reenlistment for respiratory therapists Sgt. Regina Proctor, Sgt. Joshua Cervantes, Sgt. Jose Rodriguez, Staff Sgt. Timothy Littleton and Staff Sgt. Deserae Wood Dec. 5 during a ceremony at Brooke Army Medical Center.

Stay MEDCOM, Stay Army is what five Brooke Army Medical Center respiratory therapists pledged to do during a reenlistment ceremony Dec. 5 at the Brooke Army Medical Center Medical Mall.

Staff Sgt. Timothy Littleton, Staff Sgt. Deserae Wood, Sgt. Regina Proctor, Sgt. Joshua Cervantes and Sgt. Jose Rodriguez reenlisted for a 12-month restablization at Fort Sam Houston, because of their call to duty and to serve.

"We didn't receive any bonuses," said Rodriguez. "What we do, it's not a job but a way of life. It's the life that we do."

Under the Station Stabilization Reenlistment Option, each Soldier is guaranteed 12 months of stabilization at the current installation, i.e. Fort Sam Houston, commencing on the date of reenlistment.

Each of the re-enlistees received a commander's coin, T-shirts, coffee mug and thermos, a camp chair, boot shine kit and backpack.

"Our respiratory therapists are outstanding. They always volunteer all over the hospital, not just in the area," said Capt. Jordan Inman of Troop Command. "I've very proud of them."

To cap off the day, MEDCOM Retention Operations Sergeant, Master Sgt. Clyde Dixon was also awarded an Army Commendation medal for making the MEDCOM retention goal in Fiscal Year 2007.

This is the first time that MEDCOM has made their retention goal in five years.



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default.html

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## News Briefs

### Army Medical Command Band to perform at Alamo

The Army Medical Command Band will perform a holiday concert Friday at 6:30 p.m. in front of the Alamo. The concert is free for the public.

### Holiday office closures

#### Garrison Command suite

U.S. Army Garrison Fort Sam Houston Command Suite, BTO, and PAIO, located in Building 122 will be closed Wednesday from 12 p.m. to close of business for office holiday party. The office will re-open the following day for normal duty hours. The office will also be closed Dec. 24 and 25, due to Executive Order Closing of Executive Departments and the Christmas Holiday. The office will re-open Dec. 26 for normal duty hours and close Jan. 1 for New Year's Day. The office will re-open Jan. 2 for normal duty hours.

#### DPTMS

The Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, and Security and MEO Operations and Training will be closed Wednesday from 12 to 5 p.m. for a holiday party.

#### Resource Management

The Directorate of Resource Management will be closed Wednesday from 12 p.m. to close of business for an office Christmas party. The office will re-open the following day for normal duty hours. In case of an emergency, call 221-4377

#### Internal Review

The U.S. Army Garrison Internal Review, Building 151, will be closed Wednesday from 12 p.m. to close of business for office holiday party. The office will re-open Dec. 20 for normal duty hours. The office will be closed Dec. 24 and 25 and will reopen Dec. 26 for normal duty hours. To office will also close Jan. 1 and will reopen Jan. 2 for normal duty hours.

#### DPW

The Directorate of Public Works will be close Wednesday at 12 p.m. for an office Christmas party. The office will re-open Dec. 13 for normal duty hours. In case of an emergency, call the Service Order Desk at 221-3144.

#### JAG office

The Fort Sam Houston Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, to include the Claims Division and the Legal Assistance Office, will be closed Wednesday from 12 p.m. to close of business, for an office winter holiday party. The offices will reopen Dec. 20 for normal duty hours. In case of an emergency, call the On-Call Officer at 393-3042. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class James Jordan, at 221-0484.

#### Lincoln Military Housing

Lincoln Military Housing will be closed for the Christmas Holiday on Dec. 24 and 25. Normal operations will resume Dec. 26. LMH will also be closed Jan. 1 in observance of the New Year. For emergency requests, call "Lincoln at Your Service" at 225-5564. The Housing Services Office will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 in observance of Christmas Day and New Years.

# Reserve Soldiers receive 'Warrior Citizen' award

Story and photos Phil Reiding  
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs Office



The Welcome Home Warrior Citizen award is presented to Army Reserve Soldiers who have deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

During a ceremony Sunday at the Army Reserve Training Center, Brig. Gen. Richard Stone, commanding general Medical Readiness Training Command presented awards to nine officers and noncommissioned officers recognizing their service. Each received an American flag in an engraved wooden case that recognized their patriotic service and a lapel pin.

Lt. Col. Ava Davis assigned to the 3rd Medical Brigade was deployed with the 3rd Medical Command. Maj. Paul Sasser assigned to the 7306 Medical Exercise Support Battalion deployed with the 30TH Medical Brigade. Chief Warrant Officer Robert Kamp assigned to the Medical Readiness Training Command was deployed with the 344th Combat Support Hospital. Sgt. Maj. Douglas Mayes assigned to the 7304th Medical Training Support Battalion was

Warrior Citizen awards are presented to Lt. Col. Ava Davis, Maj. Paul Sasser, Chief Warrant Officer Robert Kamp, Sgt. Maj. Douglas Mayes, Master Sgt. Amy Guidry, Sgt. 1st Class Chrysanthia Davis, Sgt. 1st Class Gilbert Morales, Staff Sgt. Alma Hernandez-Soto and Staff Sgt. Ricardo Lopez.

deployed to the 95th Division. Master Sgt. Amy Guidry assigned to the 7304th Medical Training Support Battalion was deployed with the 427th Medical Logistics Company. Sgt. 1st Class Chrysanthia Davis assigned to the Medical Readiness Training Command was deployed with the 75th Division. Sgt. 1st Class Gilbert Morales assigned to the 7306th Medical Exercise Support Battalion with deployed with the 101st Airborne Division. Staff Sgt. Alma Hernandez-Soto assigned to the 7304th Medical Training Support Battalion was deployed with the 5501st Army Hospital. Staff Sgt. Ricardo Lopez assigned to the Medical Readiness Training Command was deployed with the 807th Medical Command.

"This ceremony is about welcoming home our great Warriors to our Family, both civilian and military. We appreciate your service and the sacrifices made by your families," Stone said.

He related a story about Warriors and their Family members in a canoe paddling upstream. "We pulled you out and that upset the canoe," Stone noted. He added that Warriors returning and climbing back into the canoe upsets the canoe again. He asked the Soldiers that they to be mindful of change as they return to their positions in the canoe, remembering that the canoe and the occupants are not in the same place as when they left for their deployment.

"You have changed as a result of your experiences and your Family members have changed during your deployment," Stone said.



Brig. Gen. Richard Stone, Medical Readiness Training Command commanding general, presents an encased American Flag and a lapel pin to Staff Sgt. Ricardo Lopez and his guest during the awards ceremony at the Army Reserve Center Sunday. Lopez is assigned to the Medical Readiness Training Command and deployed with the 807th Medical Command.

## News Briefs

### Patch Chaffee water outages

The Patch Chaffee housing area will experience scheduled water outages Tuesday through the end of December from Harney Road to Worth Road. The new water line should be in place by the end of December with no additional outages required.

The Patch Chaffee asphalt placement will continue with the contractor starting to compact base material Monday from Crocket Road to Schofield Road and follow on pavement work.

The Corps of Engineers plan to pre-walk the new pavement by phase after placement, and if no major items are noted will open it to the residents. A final inspection will be held at the completion of all work.

The contractor plans to work Saturdays until the project is completed. The workers will begin at 9 a.m. and water outages are not authorized on Saturdays.

For more information or to report problems, call Lincoln Military Housing at 270-7638.

### Giant voice test

The Fort Sam Houston Giant Voice mass notification system will be tested by the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security Wednesday. For more information, call 221-9504.

### New commander, senior NCO training requirement

Commanders and senior non-commissioned officers have a new training requirement to meet for the Family Advocacy Program. The new training is in addition to the requirement to receive the FAP overview within 45 days of assuming command. The new training centers on the Case Review Committee determination process. All commanders and senior NCO leaders who may represent a Soldier at the CRC will need to complete this training prior to attending the meeting. Upon completion of the training a certificate of completion is generated. A copy of the certificate must be turned in to the Family Advocacy Program Manager at Army Community Service or to the Department of Social Work at Brooke Army Medical Center. To access the training, go to <http://www.edis.army.mil/decision%20tree/launch.htm>. For more information, call FAP at 221-0349 or DSW at 916-3020.



## A night to remember

Christina Cade goes wild as she tries to get close to "Elvis" who was in the house entertaining the crowd at the annual post Holiday Bash held Saturday at Sunset Station. Elvis is played by Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw, Fort Sam Houston and Army Medical Department Center and School commanding general. The more than 400 guests attending the holiday party underneath a pavilion enjoyed a buffet of chicken and beef with vegetables and chocolate cake. They then danced the night away to the tunes of the 50s and 60s era music provided by the Tailpipes and singer Elizabeth Ruiz accompanied by Czerw.

Photos by Esther Garcia



Brenda Knight and husband, Ken, twirl the night away at the Holiday Bash dancing to their favorite sock hop tunes.



Master of ceremonies, Col. Larry Connell, Inspector General, Army Medical Department Center and School, and holiday party coordinator, Spc. Rachel Moore, invite the attendees at the party to vote for their favorite 50s and 60s style costumes. Contestants wore poodle skirts, dressed as Elvis look-a-likes, and rolled up jeans with letter jackets.



Photos by Esther Garcia

## Holiday tunes

More than 250 guests attended the annual holiday concert Sunday at the Roadrunner Community Center on Stanley Road. Sgt. Katherine Martin (right), dressed in holiday red, sings traditional songs with the Army Medical Command Band.

## Federal Voting Assistance Officer Training a success

The U.S. Army Garrison held a Voting Assistance Training Nov. 30 with about 60 Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Voting Assistance Officers in attendance at the two - two hour training sessions presented by Paul Mendez, program analyst, Federal Voting Assistance Program.

The sessions were interactive and informative, pro-

viding timely information about the absentee registration and voting process for U.S. citizens overseas. The training sessions prepare and provide the VAO's with tools and resources to help them with their voting plan and answered questions about absentee voting.

Mendez provided information on the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee

Voting Act and the Federal Voting Assistance Program, the Voting Assistance Officer duties and responsibilities, the absentee voting process, how to use absentee voting materials and additional resources.

VAOs are critical to the success of voting assistance programs. The knowledge and effectiveness of a VAO, combined with a comprehen-

sive voting assistance plan, may very well determine whether a citizen understands how and when to participate in the election process. Mendez informed the VAOs that they are responsible for providing accurate, non-partisan voting information and assistance to citizens of all 55 states and territories who want to exercise their right to vote.

The training sessions answered many questions and prepared the VAOs on how held individuals follow the proper absentee ballot procedures, ensuring an opportunity to vote.

For more information, call Cynthia Taylor, Human Resource Specialist at 221-0107.

(Source: Garrison Human Resources Office)

## COMMUNITY CENTER from P1

center, named for someone who gave the ultimate sacrifice. I think Watkins would be proud this day, of this commitment, pleased with our partnership with Lincoln Military Properties. It reflects the commitment that the Army is making for Soldiers and their Families, dedicated to providing our Families housing like this. We couldn't ask for a better partnership.

We have asked for better living areas, and Lincoln has

provided us with better housing and playgrounds, similar to what's outside the post. Hopefully in June we will open the third community center."

Bruce Peterson, South Texas Regional Vice President for LMH, said, "Army leadership and Resident Community Initiatives have paved the way for this partnership. LMH is excited to be here to open the second of three community centers, the first in Harris Heights Oct 15. Community centers are a focal point for community activities, Family neighborhood events, and

social gatherings.

The center has a catering kitchen, pool, playground, computers with printer, fax and scanners for residence use, a living, study and dining area with televisions and DVD players."

"LMH is dedicated to providing our military partners quality homes and neighborhoods, our goal is to improve our communities with the goal on longer term with periodic modernization. We believe modern neighborhoods and customized services will result in improved quality of life for military Families," added Peterson.

Following the opening remarks the ribbon cutting ceremony took place with Czerw, Allison McKay and



Photo by Cheryl Harrison

Once the doors were opened, guests poured in to tour the new community center and enjoy refreshments. The center has a catering kitchen, pool, playground, study and dining and living area combination, as shown in photo.

Bruce Peterson of Lincoln Military Properties, Mary Pat Stumberg, Theresa Elhabr and Command Sgt. Maj. Howard Riles, AMEDDC&S

doing the honors. Once the ribbon was cut the doors were opened and guests were invited to tour the facility and enjoy refreshments.

### ***Watkins Terrace named after Army Master Sergeant***

Watkins Terrace was named after Master Sgt. Travis Watkins, a native of Waldo, Ark. He was inducted into the army in 1939 and served in the Pacific Theatre, earning the bronze star and Purple Heart before being discharged. He re-entered the army in 1946 as a machine gunner and deployed to Korea with the 9th Infantry Regiment in 1950. On Aug. 30, 1950, Watkins' unit was defending Hill 290 in the Pusan Perimeter. Cut off by an overwhelming enemy force, Watkins led his unit in defense of the hill, repelling repeated fanatical enemy assaults. Though wounded, Watkins repeatedly moved outside the perimeter to wipe out enemy positions which threatened his unit. When orders came to abandon the position on Sept. 3 Watkins refused evacuation as his hopeless condition would burden his comrades. He remained in the position and cheerfully wished his comrades luck. Through his aggressive leadership and intrepid actions, his unit destroyed 500 of the enemy. Watkins was killed in action Sept. 3, 1950. His sustained personal bravery and noble self sacrifice reflect the highest glory and is in keeping with the esteemed traditions of the U.S. Army. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in 1951.



Photo by Esther Garcia

### **Helping hands**

Sgt. Marc Medley, Texas National Guard, and Nancy Johnson, get ready for the holidays at the Warrior and Family Support Center as they inflate Santa Claus next to the Christmas Tree. Medley and Johnson volunteer their time at the center supporting with various duties, such as decorating, phones calls, welcoming visitors and answering questions.



Photo by Esther Garcia

### **Not an 'Average Frank'**

Sgt. Maj. Mary Hayes and Greg Grinnell, father of a wounded warrior, meet Frank Capanear (center) at the Warrior and Family Support Center. Capanear, known as Average Frank, is a 45-year-old retired high school coach riding a bicycle from Tucson, Ariz. to Jacksonville, Fla. raising money for the Wounded Warrior Project. During his stop in San Antonio he made a request to visit with wounded warriors to thank them for their service. Capanear, who has a son in Iraq, said, "I could not stay home while my son was in Iraq. I had difficulty sleeping, so, with my family's blessing I decided to do something about it." Capanear has been on the road since Nov. 27.

# Checklist, tips for safe winter driving

## Get your car serviced now

"Over the river and through the woods" may be where many Fort Sam Houston residents are headed, and one thing that needs to be in good working order is the family car. Whether traveling out of state or a few hours north, winter weather can cause driving hazards to even the most experienced drivers. Follow this checklist for safe holiday travel and reach your destination without mishap.

No one wants to break down in any season, but especially not in cold or snowy winter weather. Start the season off right by ensuring your vehicle is in optimal condition.

- Visit a mechanic for a tune-up or other routine maintenance.

- Have the entire vehicle checked thoroughly for any leaks, bad hoses, or other needed part repairs or replacements.

- If you plan to use snow tires, have them installed now. Check out [www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov) for tire ratings before purchasing new ones. For existing tires, check to ensure they are properly inflated (as recommended by vehicle manufacturer), the tread is sufficient with no uneven wear, and that the rubber is in overall good condition.

### Check the battery

When the temperature drops, so does battery power. Plus, it takes more power to start a vehicle in cold weather than in warm. Find out if the battery is up to the challenges of winter.

- Have a mechanic check the battery for sufficient voltage.
- Have the charging system

and belts inspected.

- If necessary, replace the battery and make system repairs.

### Check the cooling system

When coolant freezes it expands. Such expansion can potentially damage a vehicle's engine block beyond repair.

- Make sure you have enough coolant in your vehicle and that it is designed to withstand the winter temperatures in your area.

- See vehicle owner's manual for specific recommendations.

- Thoroughly check the cooling system for leaks.

- If your system hasn't been "flushed" (draining the system and replacing the coolant) for several years, have it done now. Over time, rust inhibitors in anti-freeze break down and become ineffective.

### Fill the washer reservoir

- Completely fill your vehicle's

See DRIVING P9

## DRIVING from P8

reservoir before the first snow hits.

- Use high-quality, "no-freeze" fluid.
- Buy extra wiper fluid and keep it on hand in the vehicle.

### Check windshield wipers and defrosters

- Make sure the windshield wipers work and replace worn blades.

- If winter travel takes you to an area that gets a lot of snow and ice, consider installing heavy-duty winter wipers.

- Check to see that window defrosters (front and rear) work properly.

### Inspect the tires

Regardless of season, inspect the tires at least once a month and always before embarking on a long road trip.

- Check tire pressure and make sure each tire is filled to the vehicle manufacturer's suggested PSI (pounds per square inch) of air pressure, which is listed in the owner's manual and on a label inside the driver's door.

- Keep a tire pressure gauge in the vehicle at all times and check pressure when tires are "cold" — meaning they haven't been driven on for at least three hours.

- Look closely at the tread and replace tires with uneven wear or insufficient tread. Tread should be at least 1/16 of an inch or greater on all tires.

### Know the car

Every vehicle handles somewhat differently; this is particularly true when driving on wet, icy or snowy roads. Take time to learn how to best handle the vehicle under winter weather driving conditions.

- Practice cold weather driving when your area gets snow — but not on a main road. Until you've sharpened your winter weather driving skills and know how the vehicle handles in



snowy conditions, it's best to practice in an empty lot in full daylight.

- Drive slowly. It's harder to control or stop a vehicle on a slick or snow-covered surface. On the road, sufficiently increase the following distance so you'll have plenty of time to stop for vehicles ahead of you.

- Know what kind of brakes the vehicle has and how to use them properly. In general, if you have anti-lock brakes, apply firm pressure, if you have non anti-lock brakes, pump the brakes gently.

- If you find yourself in a skid, stay calm and ease your foot off the gas while carefully steering in the direction you want the front of your vehicle to go. This procedure, known as "steering into the skid," will bring the back end of your car in line with the front.

### Have a travel and route plan

Keep yourself and others safe by planning ahead before venturing out into bad weather.

- Check the weather, road conditions and traffic; plan to leave early if necessary.

- Allow plenty of time to get to your destination safely.

- Familiarize yourself with directions and maps before heading out, and let others know the route and anticipated arrival time.

- Keep the gas tank close to full. If you get stuck in a traffic jam or

in snow, you might need more fuel to get home or keep warm.

- If road conditions are hazardous, avoid driving if possible. Wait until road and weather conditions improve before venturing out in your vehicle.

### Stock the vehicle

Keep the following items on hand when traveling in snowy, icy or cold weather:

- Snow shovel, broom and ice scraper
- Abrasive material, such as sand or kitty litter, in case the vehicle gets stuck in snow.

- Jumper cables, flashlight and warning devices, such as flares and markers
- Blankets for protection from the cold
- A cell phone, water, food and any necessary medicine (for longer trips or when driving in lightly populated areas).

### Learn what to do in an emergency

If stopped or stalled in wintry weather, follow these safety rules:

- Stay with the car and don't overexert yourself.

- Put bright markers on the antenna or windows and keep the interior dome light turned on.

- To avoid asphyxiation from carbon monoxide poisoning, don't run the car for long periods with the windows up or in an enclosed space. If you must run the vehicle, clear the exhaust pipe of any snow and run it only sporadically — just long enough to stay warm.

(Source: Garrison Safety Office)

## Sports Briefs

### Indoor Triathlon

The Jimmy Brought Fitness Center is holding an indoor triathlon Jan. 6. There is no fee for sign-up and the triathlon is open to those 10 years or older. The triathlon features a 400-meter swim, 5-mile stationary bike ride and 2-mile treadmill run. For more information, call 221-1234.

### Intramural bowling

The Fort Sam Houston Garrison intramural bowling league begins Jan. 7. For more information, call 221-3185 or e-mail [earl.t.young@us.army.mil](mailto:earl.t.young@us.army.mil).

### Cyclocross Challenge race

Fort Sam Houston in association with Morale, Welfare and Recreation and Bayne, Snell, Kraus Law Firm's racing team will host a Cyclocross Race Jan. 13 at 8:30 a.m. behind the Fort Sam Houston Aquatic Center, 3300 Williams Road. All proceeds will benefit the Fisher House. Riders can pre-register at [www.bikereg.com](http://www.bikereg.com) before Jan. 11. Same day registration will be held at 7:45 a.m. in the parking lot of the outdoor pool. All riders must have a valid U.S.A. Cycling license or purchase a one day license during registration with purchase of a same day license. Cyclocross bikes or mountain bikes are acceptable to ride the 3K course. Helmets are required. The race flyer can be seen at [www.txbra.org/db/events/ftsamcross-flyer.doc](http://www.txbra.org/db/events/ftsamcross-flyer.doc) For information, call 221-7012 or 414-3600.

# Cole High School teacher receives ExCEL award

By Robert Hoffman  
Robert G. Cole High School

Robert G. Cole High School social studies teacher Laurie Fuller is the 2007-2008 recipient of the KENS

5 ExCEL award, recognizing an outstanding educator from the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District. At an assembly Dec. 4 Fuller was presented with the "Golden Apple ExCEL

Award," and a check for \$1,000 courtesy of the San Antonio Federal Credit Union. Addressing the student body, Fuller said, "You are the reason I do this every-day. I want to stay in teach-

ing and make it better for you [students]." Fuller has been in education for fifteen years, the last ten at Cole. She is Cole's teacher leader for the Positive Behavior Program, a member of the site

based decision committee, and a former cheerleading sponsor. The ceremony was hosted by KENS 5 anchorwoman Deborah Knapp, who complimented both Fuller and Cole, "You are really lucky to have these students."

## Cole JROTC Battalion holds drill competition

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

The Robert G. Cole High School Junior ROTC Cougar Battalion held the 40th annual Battalion Drill Competition Dec. 5. The two judges, members of the U.S. Army South General Staff, reported that the Battalion looked great and it was difficult for them to find any mistakes.

The results of the competition were: best drilled Company-Bravo Company, Squad-Charlie Company, Guidon-Bravo Company with 1st Sgt. Richard Well and Guidon bearer Stephanie Aviles; best drilled individuals were: Leadership Education Training Level 1 (male) Corey Liker-Charlie Company, LET 1 (female) Dominique Mincey-Delta Company, LET 2 (male) Ryan Brock-Charlie Company, and LET 2 (female) Brittini Hatch-Delta



Courtesy photo

Bravo Company executes a column left en-route to winning the "Best Drilled Company" honors at Cole High School's Junior ROTC Battalion Drill competition Dec. 5.

Company.

The knock-out drill competition winner was senior Daniel Griffin, the Battalion Command Sgt.Maj. The drill competition took time and a lot of practice, and in the end, all of the Company's looked sharp and prepared.

## General addresses Cole freshmen

"Looking out into this group, I see the future of our nation. Though you are just beginning your journey, you are responsible for the future of our nation." From these opening remarks, and for the next 45 minutes, Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw, commanding general, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, addressed the freshman class of Robert G. Cole High School Dec. 5.

Czerw's presentation on being successful in life came as a part of the Cole ninth grader's "Freshman Readiness" class. The class is a daily part of their curriculum addressing such issues as life, study and organizational skills.

"The next eight years of high school and college are the most fun time in life. This is the time that will prepare you for life," Czerw

said. Centering on the topics of character and integrity, his presentation discussed character's six pillars: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, citizenship, and caring. "I look at character as a guide for human life. While integrity is simply doing the right thing when nobody's looking."

Concluding the presentation, Czerw stated, "The most influential people you have in your lives are each other. Have the moral courage to do the right thing."

Reflecting on the assembly, Cole freshman Bria Banks said, "It motivated us kids to act better and respect our elders. It made us think about the actions we take."

Obviously the message hit home. (Source: Fort Sam Houston Independent School District)

### Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Weekly Campus Activities Monday through Dec. 22

Winter break begins Dec. 24  
School resumes Jan. 8

**Fort Sam Houston Elementary School Dec. 21**  
Spirit day  
Designated day for classroom party

**Robert G. Cole Middle and High School Monday**  
Junior class ring delivery from Josten's during senior high lunch

**Tuesday**  
Girl's junior varsity and varsity basketball vs. Jourdanton at Cole, 5 and 6:30 p.m.  
Boy's junior varsity and varsity basketball vs. Jourdanton at Cole, 5 and 8 p.m.  
Boy's soccer vs. Feast, 4:30 p.m.

**Dec. 20**  
Boy's soccer at Antonian, 5 p.m.  
Middle school band holiday program and band concert in Moseley Gym, 7 p.m.

**Dec. 21**  
Girl's junior varsity and varsity basketball at Saint Mary's Hall, 5 and 6:30 p.m.



Courtesy photo

During the Biblical days of Bethlehem tribal leaders would gather the tribes of Judah together to learn about the Hebrew customs in the time of Jesus' birth, as depicted during the Journey to Bethlehem event last year.

## Visit Bethlehem Village at Main Post Chapel

The Fort Sam Houston Chapel community invites all families to a special Bethlehem Village to be held today, Saturday and Sunday at the Main Post Chapel from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

"Bethlehem village is an exciting way for everyone to learn more about God's love and the gift of Jesus," said Brian Merry, director, Religious Education. "And the best part is that they learn by becoming immersed in authentic Bible-times culture. Kids and adults will witness real-life dramas in the center of town, chat with shopkeepers about the coming Messiah,

and discover what it was like to live in the Roman Empire. They'll even receive Bible Memory Makers for keepsakes to use in years to come. We hope Bethlehem Village will make God's Word very real to the people in our community."

The Main Post Chapel will be transformed into a small and overcrowded village similar to the town of Bethlehem so many centuries ago. The program will provide fun, memorable Bible-learning activities for families.

Each evening children and adults will join with a small group that is named after one of the 12 tribes of Israel. The family tribes will come together for singing and then explore a traditional Bible-times Family life. They will visit the Census Taker, play authentic games, or sample Middle Eastern snacks. Families will even explore a Bethlehem village marketplace where they will become apprentices in the mosaic shop and make clay toys in a toy-making shop.

The event is free and open to everyone. For more information, call 221-5007.

(Source: Installation Chaplain's Office)

## Religion

### Fort Sam Houston Chapels Holiday worship, event schedule

#### Today to Saturday

"Journey to Bethlehem" from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel

#### Sunday

"Cantata" at 8 and 11 a.m. at the Main Post Chapel (Protestant services)

#### Dec. 24, Christmas Eve services

Roman Catholic: "Children's Mass" at 5:30 p.m. at Dodd Field Chapel and "Christmas Vigil" at 9 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel

Protestant: "Candlelight Service" at 7 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel

#### Dec. 25, Christmas Day service

Roman Catholic: "Christmas Mass," at 9:30 a.m. at the Main Post Chapel

#### Dec. 31, New Year's Eve service

Gospel Protestant: "Watchnight Service" at 11 p.m. at Dodd Field Chapel

#### Jan. 1, New Year's Day service

Roman Catholic: "Holy Day of Obligation, Feast of Mary, Mother of God Mass" at 9:30 a.m. at the Main Post Chapel

#### Two new worship services

A Christ for the Intrepid contemporary worship service will be held Sunday nights with a free coffee house at 5:30 p.m. followed by a service at 6 p.m. at the Center for the Intrepid Coffee House, on the first floor of the CFI. For more information, call Maj. Chaplain Jim Duke or Capt. Chaplain Jim Combs at 916-1105.

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

#### Reminder of schedule change

Due to the closure of the Army Medical Department Center and School Chapel for renovations services have been moved. Church of Latter Day Saints service will be held Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Noncommissioned Officer Academy; and Catholic Mass at 8 a.m. Sundays and Protestant service at 9:30 a.m. Sundays will be held in Evans Auditorium.

#### 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.



# ICE

Have feedback for  
a post customer  
service provider?

Go to the Interactive  
Customer Evaluation  
Web site at [http://ice.  
disa.mil](http://ice.disa.mil) and voice your  
opinion today.

**BEST WARRIOR from P1**

a map of the cantonment area of Camp Bullis. Their mission was to locate four points or areas within Camp Bullis using main roads, back roads, or around buildings within three hours and fifteen minutes, then report back to the staging area. The day urban orienteering covered 7.5 miles, the night portion covered 5.5 miles.

"We are trying to add some realism to the competition," said Staff Sgt. Russell Burnham, assistant noncommissioned officer in charge for the competition. Burnham first encountered the urban orienteering when competing at Fort Lee in the Department of Army level. "We are trying to make a change and follow what our Sergeant Major of the Army is doing at his competitions."

"It is a change from other competitions, but it is how we operate in Bagdad. In cities and towns, Soldiers are maneuvering within a city to get where they need to be. We aren't fighting in the woods in Iraq or Afghanistan," said Army Medical Department Center and School Command Sgt. Major Howard Riles during a visit of the

competition.

"It is definitely a challenge," said Staff Sgt. Howard Markel, who found all four areas and was the first to complete the day urban orienteering competition. "It is more than just a walk. You have to be familiar with map reading and it tasks you physically." Markel is assigned with the Noncommissioned Officers Academy.

Spc. Omar Alvidrez, who arrived second, agrees. "It was very tough and challenging, both mentally and physically. I had to back track a lot. I missed the first point and had to come back, but this is a good skill to have. It is good training."

On Sunday, candidates applied their warrior skills during the warrior task lanes that included entering a building to rescue a hostage from enemies, capturing the enemy and transporting the enemy out of the building. Armed with maps, the candidates then walked to their next missions that included weapons qualifications, providing first aid to a casualty while under attack and to recognize improvised exploded devices. The competition ended Monday with the administrative board. Winners will be announced at a later date.



Photos by Esther Garcia



Spc. Omar Alvidrez assembles a caliber .50 M2 machine gun during the weapons qualification of the competition.

Candidates are tested as they enter a building to rescue a hostage from enemies. Their mission was to secure the building, rescue the hostage and capture the enemy.



Sgt. 1st Class Tammy Crawley, Noncommissioned Officer Academy, who augmented support for the competition, demonstrates how the candidates will treat casualties from a broken down vehicle in the middle of the road while under attack from enemy fire.



(Above) Staff Sgt. Yvonne LaQue competes in the short range marksmanship of the competition. The candidates shot at their targets from behind windows, buildings or barricades.



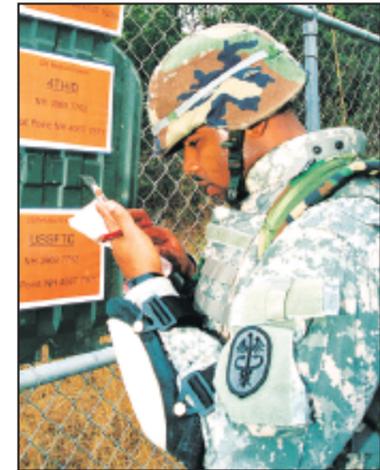
(Right) A candidate is tested as he searches a captured enemy for weapons or any classified materials.



Staff Sgt. Howard Markel places a band aid on his blistered foot following the Day Urban Orienteering course that covered 7.5 miles on Camp Bullis.



Staff Sgt. Yvonne LaQue, Brooke Army Medical Center, takes a moment to sit by the side of the road as she reviews her map to determine her location during the "Best Warrior" competition held at Camp Bullis.



Staff Sgt. Jarrett Kearse, Brooke Army Medical Center, checks his map to find his next point during the Day Urban Orienteering part of the competition. Candidates were tasked to locate 4 points or areas within Camp Bullis that covered 7.5 miles of the training area.

**Best Warrior candidates are . . .**

Spc. Omar Alvidrez, Brooke Army Medical Center from Dinuba, Ca.



Spc. John Curtis, 32nd Medical Brigade from Sierra Vista, Ariz.



Spc. Rebecca Elizondo, 32nd Medical Brigade from San Antonio



Sgt. Jarrett Kearse, Brooke Army Medical Center from Orlando, Fla.



Staff Sgt. Yvonne LaQue, Brooke Army Medical Center from San Antonio



Staff Sgt. Howard Markel, Noncommissioned Officers Academy from Panama City Beach, Fla.



## MWR holiday hours

Many of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities will be closed additional days during the December holidays. Below is a list of closures for December. Call the facilities for any variance in normal operating hours.

**RV Park:** Friday, closes at 12 p.m.; closed Dec. 21 through 22, 24 and 25; 28 through 30 and Jan. 1.

**Keith A. Campbell Memorial**

**Library:** Friday, closes at 12 p.m.; closed Dec. 23 through 25; Dec. 30 through Jan. 1.

**Outdoor Equipment Center:** Friday, closes at 12 p.m.; closed Dec. 24 and 25; Jan. 1.

**Jimmy Brought Fitness Center (and pool):** Friday, closes at 12 p.m.; closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

**Auto Craft Shop:** Friday, closes at 12 p.m.; closed Dec. 24 through 26; Dec. 31 through Jan. 2.

**Equestrian Center:** Closed Dec. 24 and 25 and Jan. 1

**Camp Bullis Outdoor Recreation**

**Center:** Closed Dec. 24 through 26 and Dec. 31 through Jan. 2

**Fort Sam Houston Recreation Area at Canyon Lake:** Closed Friday at 12 p.m.; Dec. 24 and 25; and Dec. 31 and Jan. 1

**Hacienda Recreation Center:**

Closed Dec. 20 through Jan. 1

**Brigade Gym:** Closed Dec. 20

through Jan. 1

**Central Gym:** Closed Wednesday through Jan. 1

**Sam Houston Club:** Closed Dec. 22 through Jan. 6

**Golf Club:** Closed Dec. 24, 12 p.m.; Dec. 25, Dec. 31, 12 p.m.; Jan. 1

**Bowling Center:** Closed Dec. 22 through Jan. 4

**Harlequin Dinner Theatre:** Closed Dec. 21 through Jan. 1

**Army Community Service:** Closed Monday at 12 p.m.; Dec. 24 and 25, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1

**Child Development Center:** Closed Dec. 24, 25 and 31

**Youth Services:** Closed Dec. 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1

**School Age Services:** Closed Dec. 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1

**Parent/Child Incorporated**

**Headstart:** Closed from 12 p.m. Dec. 21 through Jan. 7

**Family Child Care:** Closed Dec. 24 through 26; closed Dec. 31 and Jan. 1

An Executive Order was issued by President George W. Bush declaring Dec. 24 a holiday for most Federal Employees. As a result, the Fort Sam Houston Equestrian Center facility will also be closed that day.

The holiday hours are posted at [www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com](http://www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com).

## MWR Community Recreation

**Golf Club, 222-9386**

**Warriors Monthly Scramble golf tournament**

The Warriors Monthly Scramble is held the first Friday of each month at the Sam Houston Golf Club. The next tournament will be Jan. 4. Register up to four players to participate in the tournament. Shotgun start is at 12:30 p.m. Entry fee is \$20 per person and includes cart rental, prizes and social following the scramble. Participants must be in an authorized pass or leave status. For more information or to register, call the Golf Club Pro Shop at 222-9386.

**Golf lessons**

The Fort Sam Houston Golf Club has the perfect gift for that special someone. Sign up for the 5-lesson package for \$150, and receive an additional 5 lessons for free! Clubs and balls are included for the lesson, if needed. For more information, call 222-9386 or 355-5429.

**Holiday Sale**

The Fort Sam Houston Golf Club's Pro Shop is having a holiday sale through Dec. 23. Come by for dis-

counts ranging from 5 to 40 percent off a variety of merchandise. Stop by the driving range and buy a bucket of balls for \$3; find a lucky red ball in the bucket of range balls and be an instant winner of a dozen pro line golf balls from the Pro Shop. For more information, call 222-9386.

## Dining and Entertainment

**Sam Houston Club, 224-2721**

**Super TGIF**

Stop by the Sam Houston Club Friday at 4:30 p.m. for an evening of holiday cheer. Come enjoy free food, karaoke and DJ. For more information, call 224-2721.

**Holiday Brunch**

A special holiday brunch will be held Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club.

Features include a chocolate fondue station, complimentary champagne and an international food station.

There will be a special appearance by Santa! Cost is \$17.95 for non-members, \$15.95 for members and \$7.95 for children 6 to 11 years old. Children 5 years old and younger eat free. For more information, call 224-2721.

**Karaoke Fridays**

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

**Harlequin Dinner Theatre**

**'My Three Angels'**

The comedy by Sam and Bella Spewack, "My Three Angels" will be presented at the Harlequin Dinner Theatre through Saturday. Performance tickets are \$28 on Wednesday and Thursday and \$31 on Friday and Saturday. Doors open for salad bar and cocktails at 6:15 p.m., the buffet from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., and the show begins at 8 p.m. Military discounts are available. To make reservations or for more information, call 222-9694.

**MWR Ticket Office**

Tickets for the Alamo Bowl are now on sale at the MWR Ticket Office. The ticket office is open Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and closed Saturday through Monday. Come by for discounted tickets on local attractions,

See MWR P18

**MWR from P17**

as well as theme parks like Disney World and Universal Studios. For more information, visit [www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com](http://www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com) or call 221-1663 or 224-2721.

**Seal and Send Grocery Giveaway**

Visit [www.armymwr.com/grocerysweepstakes](http://www.armymwr.com/grocerysweepstakes) through Dec. 31 to enter for a chance to win one of the following prizes: one year of free groceries from any military commissary, commissary gift cards and certificates or Food-Saver V2440 Vacuum packaging systems. This sweepstakes is open to the total defense force - Service Members, retirees, and their Families (18 years of age and older) who are eligible to shop in the exchange and commissary. To enter into the sweepstakes or for more information, visit [www.armymwr.com/grocerysweepstakes](http://www.armymwr.com/grocerysweepstakes).

**Medieval Times Military Appreciation**

Medieval Times is hosting Military Appreciation through Dec. 25. Experience a magical evening of feasting, sport and pageantry inside one of their castles. Feast on four-course banquets while cheering a brave knight on to victory. Witness a spectacular performance of medieval tournament games, authentic jousting and exciting sword fights. Children (12 years old and younger) receive free admission with one paid adult admission through Dec. 25. Valid military identification is required at the time of purchase. This offer is not valid for online ticket

purchase. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Reservations required; request the "Kids Free Military Promotion" while making reservation to receive the discount. Medieval Times is located in various locations across the nation, including Dallas, Texas. For more information, call the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Ticket Office at 226-1663.

**Army Community Service****Pre-deployment briefing**

A deployment information and discussion briefing will be held today from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. Attendees will receive a Family preparation checklist and other useful materials. For more information or to register, call 221-0946 or 221-9821.

**Reunion, reintegration briefing**

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

**Blended Families**

The stepfamily can be complex when it comes to family relationships. Join the Red Cross, Building 2650, on Dec. 20 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to discuss changing family

dynamics and the complex roles of parents. Learn tips on dealing with discipline issues and how to avoid common pitfalls. For more information, call 221-2750.

**AER Scholarship Programs**

The Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program is for dependent children of active, retired and deceased Soldiers. The Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program offers scholarships based on financial need, academics and leadership/achievement. For more information or to apply for the scholarship, visit [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org) or call Army Community Service at 221-1612.

**Child and Youth Services****Parent Advisory Council**

A Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Council meeting will be held 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 the staff, attend parent workshops and learn about upcoming events. PAC meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month. For more information, call 221-4871 or 221-1723.

**Youth winter camp**

School Age Services and Youth Services will provide Winter Camp from Dec. 26 through Jan. 7. All patrons must be registered in order to be

eligible for the camp. For more information, call School Age Services at 221-4455 or the Youth Center at 221-3502.

**Coaches needed**

The Youth Sports Program is looking for basketball coaches. Coaches will need to clear a background check. Those interested may pick up coaching packets from the Youth Center, Building 1630 or Central Registration, Building 2797. For more information, call Sports at 221-5519 or 221-3502.

**Youth talent show**

Sign-up for the 2008 Youth Services Talent Show. Comedians, dancers, models, steppers, poets, speakers, singers and musicians are needed for the yearly show which will be held Feb. 23. Stop by any Child and Youth Services facility between Dec. 26 and Jan. 25 to sign-up. Applicants must be between the ages of 3 and 18. For more information, call 221-4871 or 221-1723.

**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.

**Central Registration**

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

## 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@conus.army.mil](mailto:news.leader@conus.army.mil) or fax to 221-1198. Freebies run for one week unless submitter calls to renew. Limit of five items per entry. For more information, call 221-1031.

**For Sale:** Green leather chaise and sofa, oversized, \$400; glass dining table with four chairs, \$200; brown loveseat sofa and large chair, \$450. Call 221-0831.

**For Sale:** Sealy queen-size mattress set, \$150; Graco duo glider double stroller, \$100; Graco snug ride infant car seat, \$30; Graco extra base infant car seat, \$25. Call 262-2947 or 262-9386.

**For Sale:** Meyer's parrot with two cages, 1 year old, yellow, green and blue feathers, \$250.

Call Ike at 481-0798 or e-mail [ike\\_simonelli@yahoo.com](mailto:ike_simonelli@yahoo.com).

**For Sale:** 1993 Toyota Camry, green, four door, V6, automatic, A/C. Call 317-1630.

**For Sale:** Dining room table with four covered chairs, 71-inches long by 38-inch wide, \$600 obo; couch, 7 foot long, \$150; free boxes, all sizes. Call 226-2108 or 618-531-8122.

**For Sale:** Ashley three piece living room set, \$375; glass dining room set with six chairs and bakers rack, \$295; Maytag gas

dryer \$225; three piece coffee and end tables \$45; two lamps, \$40. Call 535-2249, 493-2910 or e-mail [Getmysale@yahoo.com](mailto:Getmysale@yahoo.com).

**For Sale:** GE electric stove, good condition, \$75 obo. Call 688-2445.

**For Sale:** Reversible king comforter set with sheets, plus bathroom accessories, palm tree design, \$75; white wicker fainting couch with cushion, excellent condition, \$90; Nintendo game cube, one controller and game boy adapter, \$50; games for game cube, \$10

each; Bagboy push golf cart, \$75. Call 697-9261.

**For Sale:** Bookcase/entertainment center, 5 feet tall by 36 inches wide, \$125; baby swing with music, \$40; coffee table with scalloped edges, 36 inches round, \$20; bassinette with mattress, \$20; Pekingese, male, 5 months, has all shots, \$350 obo. Call 633-3859.

**For Sale:** Kenmore front loader washer; Admiral capacity plus electric dryer, \$250 both; General Electric freezer chest, 7.0 cubic-foot, \$100. Available end of December; dehumidifier, \$30. Call 254-9803 or 608-359-5115.

**Free to good home:** German shepherd, female, 7 years old, house broken, needs lots of room to run. Call 849-6478 or 658-9421.

**Free to good home:** Indoor cat, male, neutered, white and tan, long haired, 12 years old, litter trained. Call 333-0821 or 386-8265.



**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.

## COMMUNITY Events

### Scholarships for military children

Defense Commissary Agency is accepting applications for 2008 Scholarships for Military Children Program. The \$1,500 scholarships is available for children under the age of 21 (or 23, if enrolled in school) of military active-duty, retired, and Guard and Reserve service members. Eligibility is determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database. The applicant must be planning to attend, or already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the fall of 2008 or enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program. Applicants must submit an essay arguing for or against the following statement: "Every able-bodied citizen should be required to serve a two-year period of time in the military. Why or why not?" Applications must be turned in to any commissary by Feb. 20. For more information, call 804-734-8061 or visit [www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org).

### Paintball adventure

Anyone interested in organizing a paintball activity with co-workers or friends can call or stop by the Lackland Outdoor Adventure Center. For information on future tournaments and events, call outdoor recreation on Lackland Air Force Base at 925-5532.

### Skeet and Trap Range

Open skeet shooting is available at the

Randolph Air Force Base Skeet and Trap Range. The range is open Wednesdays from 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The range offers shotguns for rent and five stand skeet shooting for enthusiasts to test their skills. Skeet tournaments are held throughout the year. Texas residents must have a current Texas Skeet Shooting Association card to participate. For more information, call 652-2064.

## Training

### Army Knowledge On-line

Army Knowledge On-line training will be held Jan. 16 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. in Building 2841, Room 2105C, and Jan. 23 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. in Building 2841, Room 2105A/B. Training for PureEdge MyForms will be held Jan. 8 and 9 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. in Building 2841, Room 2105C. For more information or to register, call Julie Gueller at 221-6203.

### English as a Second Language

Classes for English as a Second Language will be sponsored by the Region 20 Education Center and Army Community Service Relocation Assistance Program Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. Beginning, intermediate and advanced classes are offered for foreign-born spouses to increase reading comprehension, vocabulary, and pronunciation and instructions on citizenship information. For more information, call 221-2418.

### Training for first-term Soldiers

The Financial Readiness First-Term Soldier On-Line Training is mandatory for all first-term Soldiers. It is an eight hour course containing tools and information on money matters, basic money management, savings and investments, insurance, major purchases and many other informative topics dealing with money. The Education Center is available for Soldiers to take the class; Army Community Service will provide an instructor every Wednesday from 12 to 4 p.m. For more information, visit <https://www.myarmylifetoo.com> and select Money Matters to register.

## Meetings

### NCO Wives' Club

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

### Warrant Officer Association

The Lone Star Silver Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association meeting will be held Saturday at the home of Randy Blackburn. The January meeting will be Jan. 21 at 7 p.m. at Chacho's and Chulucci's, 8614 Perrin Beitel Rd. All active duty, retired, Reserve, National Guard, Warrant Officers and Family members of current or retired warrant officers are invited. For more information and directions, call Juan Gomez at 295-6596, e-mail [juan.gomez@us.army.mil](mailto:juan.gomez@us.army.mil), or Suzan Farrell

at 378-0422, e-mail [suzan.farrell@us.army.mil](mailto:suzan.farrell@us.army.mil).

### Spouses' Club holiday coffee

The Spouses' Club board will host a holiday coffee and meeting Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at the Stillwell House. The event is free and open to all members, reservations are not required. For more information, call Marcella Garcia at 677-5187.

## Volunteer

### Kelly Dental Clinic needs patients

The Kelly Dental Clinic at Lackland Air Force Base is currently seeking patients who are dependent children, dependents and retirees, not on the United Concordia Dental Insurance Program. Each patient must have had a current examination, have current health history and x-rays and need routine oral prophylaxis (every six months) for healthy dentition. We will not accept patients with periodontal conditions. Members must have a record or copy of their record with this information. Interested patients should call the Kelly Dental Clinic at 925-1846 and leave a full name and phone number or e-mail. Patients will be handled on a first come, first served basis.

### Seeking rugby players

The San Antonio Rugby Association is holding open registration for all high school males interested in playing this ancient sport that is growing in popularity. Practices are Mondays and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at Olmos Basin Park. For more information and to register, call 493-1049, e-mail [andrew@ellielance.com](mailto:andrew@ellielance.com) or visit [www.sanantoniorugby.com](http://www.sanantoniorugby.com).