

FORT SAM HOUSTON News Leader

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

Head or tail?



Photo by Benjamin Faske

Staff Sgt. Jason Fetty flips the coin to start the 2009 All-American Bowl in the Alamodome in San Antonio. Fetty is a civil affairs NCO at Fort Bragg, N.C., and was one of 85 Soldier-Heroes representing the Army during pre-game activities. Sergeant Major of the Army Kenneth Preston, Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Chiarelli, and Secretary of the Army Pete Geren assisted in the ceremonial toss. *See related story and more photos, Pages 12 and 13.*

SFAC celebrates anniversary

By Cheryl Harrison
Army Community Service, Marketing

Just over one year ago the Soldier and Family Assistance Center opened its one-stop support shop for Warriors in Transition and their Families. On Jan. 6 it celebrated its first anniversary, the success of the center, its growth and the excellent service provided for Soldiers that need it the most.

The SFAC and its programs was another step in the Army's quest to improve support services for Warriors in Transition and their Families. Earlier in the year, the Army Medical Action Plan directed Installation Management Command to establish SFACs on installations in the continental U.S. that have military medical facilities and Warrior

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591st Medical Logistics keeps supplies, shelves stocked

By Spc. Anthony Hooker
215th Public Affairs Detachment

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – For just over a year, Soldiers assigned to the 591st Medical Logistics Company have provided direct support to Task Force, brigade and Corps Medical units throughout Iraq.

Since November 2007, the 70-member company deployed from Fort Sam Houston has received, stocked and shipped medical items, ran a single and multi-vision optical lens fabrica-

“Our customers tell us (they) appreciate what we do. It's very motivating when you hear it from people who use it.”

*Spc. Emmanuel Alvarado
Medical Maintenance Repair Technician, 591st Medical Logistics Company*

tion and repair lab, and provided a medical maintenance shop for customers assigned missions on behalf of Operations Iraqi Freedom. The 591st MLC, nearing completion of their 15-month deployment, reported that they service over 400 different units on a monthly basis.

The 591st MLC also hosted nearly 100 customer representatives in the inaugural medical logistics conference in February and three Iraqi medical officers in April; during each event, the 591st provided instruction, knowledge and understanding of medical logistics operations.

Capt. Shondra Thomas, commander of the 591st MLC, said the unit's goal is to provide life saving medical supplies to warfighters. Thomas, a native of Birmingham, Ala., said the unit met the Department of the Army's standard of 62 percent for demand accommodation after 130 days in theater, a fact her office said has never been done previously in Iraq. Although proud of the accomplishment, Thomas proposed

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Say 'Thank You' with a U.S. Army Freedom Team Salute Commendation

By Ronald James
 Assistant Secretary of the Army,
 Manpower and Reserve Affairs

www.FreedomTeamSalute.com

Our Army is doing a tremendous job defending America's freedom. Our success depends on strong supporters standing with us as we fight the Global War on Terrorism. I encourage you to take the time to say "Thank You" to those special individuals that help us accomplish our duties.

The U.S. Army's Freedom Team Salute program was initiated by the Secretary of the Army and the Army Chief of Staff to provide all currently serving Soldiers a sincere, heartfelt way to recognize

their Parents and Spouses for their support and sacrifice. Guard and Reserve Soldiers can also recognize their Employers during these trying times. Additionally, anyone can honor the millions of discharged U.S. Army Veterans who served with distinction; and, other Army Supporters, who continue to make significant contributions to the Army's mission (for example, a Soldier's child or other relative, a Family Readiness Group Leader, Department of the Army Civilians, or an active community member).

Those honored will receive a personalized letter of thanks and certificate of appreciation signed by the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Army; an official Army lapel pin; and, Army decals. The entire commendation package is prepared and mailed at no cost to either you or the recipient.

pared and mailed at no cost to either you or the recipient.

Honoring someone is quick and easy. Visit the U.S. Army Freedom Team Salute Web site at www.FreedomTeamSalute.com and complete an online commendation form.

For more information or assistance, e-mail info@FreedomTeamSalute.com.

Thought of the Week

Some people go about doing good; others just go about. From "Quips, Quotes, and Quests" (Source: Fort Sam Houston Chaplain's Office)

Weekly Weather Watch						
	Jan. 8	Jan. 9	Jan. 10	Jan. 11	Jan. 12	Jan. 13
San Antonio	76° Clear	77° Partly Cloudy	61° Partly Cloudy	59° Partly Cloudy	63° Partly Cloudy	59° Partly Cloudy
Kabul Afghanistan	37° Clear	37° Partly Cloudy	37° Snow Chance	37° Snow Chance	33° Partly Cloudy	37° Snow Chance
Baghdad Iraq	62° Clear	60° Clear	59° Partly Cloudy	59° Rain Chance	55° Partly Cloudy	53° Clear

(Source: Weather Underground at www.wunderground.com)

News Briefs

Change of responsibility

The Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Senior Leadership Course will hold a change of responsibility ceremony Jan. 12 at 4:30 p.m. in front of the NCO Academy, Building 1397. The outgoing first sergeant is 1st Sgt. Raymond Sanders, the incoming first sergeant will be 1st Sgt. Carlisle Jones. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Jose Magana at 221-3324.

32nd Med. Bde. celebrates MLK Day

The 32nd Medical Brigade will celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday on Jan. 14 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Hacienda Recreation Center. Headquarters Company, 32nd Medical Brigade, will host the Celebration.

Giant Voice test

A computer-based, radio-operated emergency warning system, or Giant Voice, is programmed to release emergency messages during normal duty hours to the general populace at Fort Sam Houston. The Giant Voice test is sent out the third Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. The next Giant Voice test will be Jan. 14 at 9 a.m. For more information, call Michael McCarthy at 221-0714.

SAEDA/OPSEC classes

The Subversion and Espionage Directed Against the U.S. Army and Operations Security classes are scheduled for Fiscal 2009. The class dates are:

- Jan. 8 from 10 to 11 a.m. at Evans Theater
- Feb. 4 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Blesse Auditorium
- March 12 from 10 to 11 a.m. at Evans Theater
- April 1 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Blesse Auditorium

Attendees must bring their Common Access Card to sign in. For more information about Evans Theater briefings, contact the Garrison Security Office at 221-2280, 221-1906 or 221-9500. For more information about Blesse Auditorium briefings, contact the Army Medical Department Center and School Security Office at 221-8841 or 221-8199.

On-post housing available

Lincoln Military housing has two-bedroom homes available for E1 to E6, three-bedroom homes available for O4 to O5, and four-bedroom homes available for W1 to O3. Soldiers who would like to apply for housing need to bring in their latest end-of-month Leave and Earning Statement, Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System enrollment documentation and ID card to the resident community center location that provides service for their respective rank and

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Long road to recovery for wounded warrior

By Minnie Jones
 Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs



Photo by Minnie Jones

Sp. Lawrence Guerro (right) enjoys the U.S. Army All American Bowl Jan. 3 at the Alamodome with his parents Larry and Marie Guerro. "The event like today gives me an opportunity to spend time with my son, this is my first time coming to an event like this," said Marie Guerro.

Sitting on the 30-yard line in San Antonio's Alamodome during the U.S. Army All American Ball, Sp. Lawrence Guerro is a long way from the place that brought him here to San Antonio.

In 2006, Guerro, a Native American, came to San Antonio from Magdalena, a small historic old west village, located in New Mexico, by way of Baghdad, Iraq. While serving in Iraq he was wounded in action when his vehicle encountered a roadside bomb during a ground convoy just outside of Camp Striker.

Even though Guerro is not a true football fan, coming to the game Saturday, sponsored by the Warrior and Family Support Center gave him an opportunity to get away from the Powless House for a few hours.

The Powless House is a 150-room housing facility on Fort Sam Houston for wounded warriors, where Guerro spends most of his time recuperating from his injuries.

"The event like today gives me an opportunity to spend time with my son, this is my first time coming to an event like this, said Marie Guerro, Sp. Guerro's mother. I have been to a couple of events since arriving here; it gives us something to do, instead of staying at the Powless House everyday."

It has been a long and trying road, both physically and mentally for Guerro and his Family. His first stop after being injured in Iraq was to Landstuhl, Germany, and then back to the states to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. From there Guerro was flown to Fort Sam Houston where Brooke Army Medical Center, the Center for the Intrepid, the Powless House, the Warrior and Family Support Center are located, and most importantly, to be closer to his Family.

BAMC is renowned for providing servicemembers with long-term therapy following severe injuries received during war, and the Center for the Intrepid, the Army's state-of-the-art physical rehabilitation facility, is instrumental in

Guerro's physical therapy and recovery.

As far as his mental recovery is concerned, the support and love of his parents, who have travelled from New Mexico to be by his side, is the most powerful presence in his recuperation process, and this is where the assistance of the WFSC makes its appearance.

The WFSC has proven to be a vital component in the recovery process of the wounded warriors and their Family members.

One of the roles of the WFSC is to give Family members, who come join their loved ones through these difficult times, all the moral support and assistance they need while making the transition to a new city as unproblematic as possible.

It provides a place, a sanctuary away from the hospital, a relaxed and comfortable environment, where wounded warriors and their Family members can receive emotional support and answers to questions regarding rehabilitation and assistance with coping with war related disabilities.

Marie Guerro has made several trips to San Antonio from New Mexico since was injured back in 2006. She speaks highly of the WFSC and all that they have done for their Family since they

have come here.

"Judith Markelz, [WFSC program manager] and all of the staff at the WFSC have been wonderful, they have really been supportive and have been there every time we needed anything; they work really well with the Soldiers," she said.

Throughout his journey, there have been some negative stops on the way. Guerro a soft-spoken man, of few words seems to have come to grips with the lost of his leg, but still struggles with trying to put into perspective why he and his wife have separated, and why he doesn't get to see his two children much. Despite the setbacks he continues to be positive and always looks towards the horizon. Even though the road for Guerro has been long and sometimes uncertain; it now seems headed in a new and positive direction.

His physical condition is much better than it was a year ago, most of his surgeries are behind him now, his parents have decided to relocate permanently to San Antonio. His father has already found employment, and he (Guerro) is making plans to purchase a home soon.

Guerro is always looking towards the horizon not to see the sun set, but because he says, that he knows that the sun always rises in the morning.

News Briefs

bedroom requirements. Ranks E1 to E6 requiring two bedrooms call 824-9587 or visit the Harris Heights Community Center, 3751 Patch Road. Ranks O1 to O6 requiring two, three or four bedrooms call 270-7638 or visit the Lincoln Resident Center, Building 407, Dickman Roaf. For more information or availability, call LMH at 270-7638 or e-mail ftsamhoustonquestions@lpsi.com.

Brooke Army Medical Center clinics move

Orthopaedic Clinic

The Orthopaedic Clinic at BAMC has moved from the hospital's first floor to the fifth floor. The clinic provides state of the art orthopaedic care to active duty Soldiers of all services, their dependents, retirees, and all eligible beneficiaries. Patients now check in near 547-8 on the fifth floor. For more information, call 916-4463.

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Clinic

The Traumatic Brain Injury Clinic at BAMC has moved from the hospital's first floor to the Lower Level in the old Tricare Service Center location. Patients now check in Suite L-33-3. For more information, call 916-8693.

Soldiers in Training Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Clinics

The BAMC Soldiers in Training Physical Therapy (SIT/PT) Clinic and Occupational Therapy (OT) Clinic have moved to a new location on the hospital's first floor. They are now located in the old outpatient medical records area near the medical mall. For more information on SIT/PT, call 916-3066. For more information on OT, call 916-5805.

Physical Therapy Outpatient Clinic

The BAMC Physical Therapy Outpatient Clinic has moved from their previous location on the hospital's first floor to the third floor in the old medical library area. Patients now check in at door 330-19. For more information, call 916-1920.

Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Clinic

The BAMC Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Clinic has moved from the hospital's first floor to the fifth floor. This is a referral clinic requiring an appointment and a consult from another health care provider and treatment emphasis is on restoring or optimizing a patient's overall functional abilities. Patients now check in at Suite 537-14. For more information, call 916-0306.

U.S. Army South hosts Military-Civilian Club of San Antonio

By Robert Ramon
U.S. Army South Public Affairs

More than 25 members of the Military-Civilian Club of San Antonio visited the U.S. Army South headquarters Dec. 15 at the invitation of Army South Commander Maj. Gen. Keith Huber.

"I feel a closer tie to the military because of this visit," said Barbara Wright, the Military-Civilian Club's civilian president.

The purpose of the visit was to educate the club on Army South's mission as the Army Service Component Command of U.S. Southern Command. Discussions included information on command engagements in Latin America and the Caribbean. U.S. Army South conducts numerous operations and engagements with partner armies of the Americas to help foster hemispheric security and stability.

Huber met with the club members and described Army South's many engagements with the other Armies of the Americas helping foster hemispheric security and stability.

"The hospitality was wonderful and we gained some great insight into the Army's mission in Latin America and the Caribbean," said Wright of the meeting with Huber.

The Military-Civilian Club of San Antonio was founded in 1921 with the idea of bringing together the women of the military and those of the city. At that time, Military Civilian Club of San



Photo by Sgt. Nina Ramon

U.S. Army South commander Maj. Gen. Keith M. Huber explains the Army South mission to members of the Military-Civilian Club of San Antonio at Army South headquarters Dec. 15.

Antonio founder, Mrs. John Jenkins, felt the military installations and the city of San Antonio were growing so large that it was becoming difficult to preserve the close ties, which are important to the community.

"We haven't done many visits like this recently," said Wright. "When I looked at notes from our past presidents, I noticed these types of tours were common, so we were thrilled to have this opportunity today."

The fact that the Army South headquarters are located in "Old BAMC" was of particular interest to the club members.

"The building is a San Antonio landmark and many of our members have ties here as former patients or as visitors to the building when it was a hospital," said Wright. "I remember visiting friends here and to see it so beautifully restored today is eye-opening. We are thoroughly impressed," she said.

The Military-Civilian Club's visit to U.S. Army South is one example of the strong relationship between the U.S. Army and the San Antonio community.

"It made me feel so proud of our military," said Wright. "We'll be talking about this special visit to our friends and community leaders for a long time."

San Antonio BRAC construction soars into Fiscal 2009

Awarding \$101 million additional construction contracts

After awarding about \$1.2 billion in construction contracts in Fiscal 2008, the San Antonio Base Realignment and Closure construction program is carrying its momentum into Fiscal 2009, which began on Oct. 1.

Three construction contracts worth more than \$101 million have been awarded

for BRAC projects at Fort Sam Houston, Randolph Air Force Base and Port San Antonio, formerly known as Kelly Air Force Base. These contracts concern the construction of dormitories, renovation of two buildings, and modifications to a hangar, which is all being done to prepare for the arrival of new military missions and the realignment of existing missions in accordance with BRAC mandates.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, awarded the largest

of these contracts for construction of a 1,200-person dormitory that will be part of the Medical Education and Training Campus (METC) on Fort Sam Houston. The \$73.4 million contract went to the Hensel Phelps Construction Company, which has a district office in Austin, Texas and based in Greeley, Colo. This dormitory is the third of three dorms being built for METC. Hensel Phelps also received the contract in 2008 to build the first two dorms of which construction has already

begun.

METC will consolidate the enlisted medical training programs of all branches of the U.S. military. In addition to the dorms, METC's 1.9 million square feet of facilities will also include classrooms, labs, a physical fitness center and an 80,000 square foot dining facility.

The Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment awarded a \$24 million contract for renova-

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SFAC from P1

in Transition units.

On Jan. 4, 2008 in a large room in the basement of Brooke Army Medical Center the SFAC opened its doors. In support of Base Realignment and closure the SFAC relocated at the end of July to a warehouse building located within the BAMC compound, adjacent to the new Warrior and Family Support Center.

In one year's time the SFAC has seen about 12,000 Warriors in Transition and Family members in a client capacity. That is an average of 950 per month, or 275 per week, quite an accomplishment for the center's 25 employees.

The center comprises more than 20 onsite experts available to offer advice or, in some cases, on-the-spot solutions for everything from pay issues to money management, job hunting or child care.

Additionally, the center

offers an array of conveniences, to include Internet access, printers, scanners and fax machines.

The center also provides supportive actions concerning retirement, transition management, military benefits and review of records. Recently the SFAC also added the capability to provide ID and Common Access Cards support by appointment only.

Charles O'Leary, SFAC supervisor said, "I have a staff that is at a professional level that takes care of business, seeing clients day in and day out, without so much as a flinch. And some of them are a worse case scenario."

The center's ability to provide a multi-service; one-stop facility for wounded warriors is a demonstration of commitment to servicemembers and their Families. It has been described as a "hub for orienting" Soldiers on governmental and nongovernmental entitlements, as well as a

focal point for administrative and financial needs.

The center enables Soldiers to focus on their new mission, and that is to heal so they can return to active duty or go into a community as a veteran and contribute to that community in the same way they contributed to the nation.

Adding to the celebratory words, Col. Mary Garr, garrison commander, Fort Sam Houston said, "This is not about a building, it is not about availability. It is about serving our Soldiers and their Families at a critical point in their lives."

The SFAC now in existence for one year is dedicated to sponsoring mutual support, comradeship, and healing for Warriors in Transition and their Family members by providing the best social, financial, educational, vocational, legal, military and information and referral services available, in a supportive environment.

The staff's efforts are aimed



Photo by Cheryl Harrison

U.S. Army Garrison Commander Col. Mary Garr cuts the cake with the help of four wounded warriors at the first anniversary celebration for the Soldier and Family Assistance Center Jan. 6.

at fostering dignity and independence, enabling the Warriors in Transition to move back to duty or to serve as a vital member of a civilian community.

In January 2011 it is projected the SFAC will move yet again. But that relocation will be the final move, housing the SFAC into a permanent 15,000 square foot facility.

Funding is available and the site will be closer to the WFSC. The only requirement is time and patience before that move is accomplished.

The SFAC is located at 3931 Okubo Barrack Road, Building 3544. Hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information about the SFAC, call 916-7322.

Community FIRST Focus Groups to be held at U.S. Army Garrison headquarters

For Single Soldiers

The Community FIRST Single Soldiers focus group will be held on Jan. 14 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. in the Garrison Command Conference Room, Building 122, 1206 Stanley Road. If you are a single Soldier and would like to attend, call the customer service officer at 221-2543 or e-mail samh.cms@conus.army.mil. To submit an issue or recommendation visit www.samhouston.army.mil/cms/Form_ComFirst.asp, and click on, "submit an issue or recommendation." Issues will be electronically submitted to the Customer Management Services office.

For Retirees

The Community FIRST Retirees focus group will be held Jan. 28 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. in the Garrison Command Conference Room, Building 122, 1206 Stanley Road. If you are a retiree from any branch of the military service, and would like to attend, call the customer service officer at 221-2543 or e-mail samh.cms@conus.army.mil. To submit an issue or recommendation visit www.samhouston.army.mil/cms/Form_ComFirst.asp, and click on, "submit an issue or recommendation." Issues will be electronically submitted to the Customer Management Services office.

Fort Sam Houston Tax Centers open Jan. 20

The post will open its two tax centers Jan. 20. The primary tax center office will be located in Building 133, immediately behind the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, and the satellite office will be located in Brooke Army Medical Center, in the hospital's lower level. Servicemembers and civilians who have been trained to prepare taxes will staff each tax center. Tax preparers have been trained by the Internal Revenue Service and must pass all required all tests before they can prepare taxes. Soldiers and civilians who serve in the tax center will attend Internal Revenue Service training and must pass all required tests before they can prepare taxes. The tax centers will offer free tax preparation to military members, retirees, and their dependents. In most cases, returns can be signed and electronically filed with the IRS on the same day. Returns filed by Thursday will be electronically deposited into a taxpayer's bank account as early as the following Friday, meaning people can have their refund back in as little as one week. In the past, Fort Sam Houston tax centers have saved servicemembers thousands of dollars in tax preparation fees and helped them collect hundreds of thousands of dollars of refunds each year.

Top ten tax tips

Gather records now. It's never too early to start getting together any documents or forms such as receipts, canceled checks, and other documents that support an item of income or a deduction. Also, be on the lookout for W-2s and 1099s, coming soon from your employer.

Find the correct forms. Whether you file a 1040 or 1040-EZ, you can download all IRS forms and publications at www.irs.gov.

Do a little research. Check out Publication 17 on irs.gov. It's a comprehensive collection of information for taxpayers highlighting everything you'll need to know when filing your return.

Review Pub 17 to ensure you're taking all credits and deductions for which you're eligible.

Think ahead to how you'll file. Will you prepare your return yourself or go to a preparer? Do you qualify to file at no cost using Free File on irs.gov? Are you eligible for free help at an IRS office or volunteer site? Will you purchase tax preparation software or file online? Give yourself time to weigh them all and find the option that best suits your needs.

Take your time. Rushing to get your return

filed increases the chance you will make a mistake and not catch it.

Double-check your return. Mistakes will slow down the processing of your return. Make sure all the Social Security Numbers and math calculations are correct as these are the most common errors made by taxpayers.

Consider e-file. When you file electronically, the computer will handle the math calculations for you, and you will get your refund in about half the time it takes when you file a paper return.

Think about Direct Deposit. If you elect to have your refund directly deposited into your bank account, you'll receive it faster than waiting for a check by mail.

Visit IRS.gov often. The official IRS Web site is a great place to find everything you'll need to file your tax return: forms, tips and updates on tax law changes.

Relax. There's no need to panic. If you run into a problem, the IRS is there to help. Visit www.irs.gov or call customer service at 800-829-1040.

(Source: Internal Revenue Service)



The Army Community Service Newcomers' Extravaganza is held monthly and offers Soldiers, Family members and civilian employees the opportunity to gather information, meet local business representatives, and learn about their new home at Fort Sam Houston and San Antonio. The next Extravaganza will be held Jan. 27 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Sam Houston Club, Building 1395, Chaffee Road.

Fort Sam Houston newcomers invited to extravaganza

Story and photo by Cheryl Harrison
Army Community Service Marketing Specialist

Not only is it time to herald in a new year, but once again, Fort Sam Houston and Army Community Service will begin its monthly Extravaganza for newcomers.

The next Newcomers' Extravaganza will be held Jan. 27 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Sam Houston Club. Plan to come early, have some coffee or juice, fruit and pastries, meet other new folks to Fort Sam and possibly get your name pulled out of the hat and receive a nice gift.

A permanent change of station can be unsettling, overwhelming and confusing for military members and their Families. In an effort to make the transition to Fort Sam Houston a bit easier, the ACS Relocation Assistance Program holds monthly Newcomers' Extravaganzas.

The mandatory Newcomers' Extravaganza is for all permanent

party in-processing Soldiers, lieutenant colonel and below, within 60 days of their arrival to Fort Sam Houston.

The extravaganza is an opportunity to learn about Fort Sam Houston and the San Antonio area as well as meet representatives from many different organizations, programs and businesses.

The extravaganza is a full morning of information, questions and answers, good food, and prizes. The activities offer a great way to participate in giveaways, drawings, social events and registration.

Commanders and supervisors are encouraged to allow Soldiers and civilian employee's administrative time to attend. Accompanied Soldiers and civilian employees are encouraged to bring spouses as well as the entire Family. The extravaganza offers literature, brochures, and giveaway items for every age group.

For more information, call the ACS Relocation Assistance Program at 221-2705 or 221-2418.

591ST from P1

that it was her hope that the percentage rises to 90 percent by the time her unit leaves theater.

Receiving supplies from U.S. bases in Germany or Qatar, the items are identified, marked and shelved. The 591st MLC keeps over 1,200 lines of items on stock at the warehouse, making sure customers are fully mission capable. When a product is scheduled to be moved, it must be done using a material release order, which identifies items and verify their proper destinations.

Sgt. Matthew Byars, the medical maintenance shipping noncommissioned officer, must keep account of items as soon as they arrive at the warehouse. Whether receiving incoming equipment that needs repair or performing inspections on new or

swapped-out equipment, Byars said the handoff is key, as a breakdown can lead to major problems.

"The right hand must know what the left hand is doing," said Byars, whose section can receive four or five trucks a day, depending on the season. "If our counterparts in receiving don't tell us what's coming or if my group is not updating statuses, we are not able to do command and control."

Byars said they often deal with a lot of high-dollar, high-visibility equipment, so he said it's important to be conscientious of Army dollars and other people's involvement.

"Earlier in the year, we lost track of an item (an OREX scanner) that was loaned out to a customer," said Byars. "It was eventually found in email traffic, but that was a \$92,000 item that was almost lost ... something a person could've

have thrown it right in the back of a Humvee."

The 591st MLC reports that they have saved over 14 million dollars in restock. Byars said whatever the situation; the priority is to make sure items are accounted for.

"I may never touch the equipment but the accountability is still mine."

Spc. Emmanuel Alvarado, a medical maintenance repair technician, worked in the medical warehouse in 2005. Alvarado said the workload is still the same but the environment is better.

"The last time (I) was here, we worked in tents," said Alvarado. "The equipment took a beating. Now that we are under a hardened area, dust is still an issue, but it's much less than when we worked under tents."

Occasionally going outlying areas to fix broken equipment, Alvarado said the customers let him know how important the company's services are.

"Our customers tell us (they) appreciate what we do," said Alvarado. "It's very motivating when you hear it from people who use it."



Courtesy photos

Spc. James Welcome, 591st Medical Logistics Company performs inventory at the Class VII warehouse at the Joint Base Balad Nov. 1. Welcome is a native of Pensacola, Fla.



Spc. Bryan Ashe, a medical logistician with the 591st Medical Logistics Company pushes a cart as he prepares to inspect and categorize items Nov. 1.



Winter storm tips

Be prepared in case of inclement weather

The Ready Army program is reminding Soldiers and their Families to prepare themselves for the possibility of severe winter storms. These storms can affect everyone, even those who usually experience mild winters, especially when they are travelling to areas with more inclement weather. Heavy snowfall can be blinding for drivers and dangerous for those it traps indoors. Winter storms may also include high winds, sleet, freezing rain, frozen roads, power outages and dangerously cold temperatures.

How to prepare for a winter storm

- Be aware of the risk for severe winter weather in your area.
- Stay informed and know winter storm terminology:
 - Freezing rain** – Rain that

freezes when it hits the ground. Ice may coat roads, walkways, trees and power lines.

Sleet – Rain that freezes into ice pellets before it reaches the ground. Sleet can cause moisture on roads and walkways to freeze.

Winter storm watch – Weather conditions are favorable for development of a winter storm. Stay tuned to radio or TV for more information and instructions.

Winter storm warning – A winter storm is occurring or will occur soon.

Blizzard warning – Considerable amounts of snow with sustained winds or frequent gusts up to 35 mph are expected to prevail for at least three hours. Visibility is reduced to less than a quarter mile.

Frost or freeze warning – Below-freezing temperatures

are expected.

- Make sure your home is properly insulated.
- Caulk and weather strip doors and windows to keep out cold air.
- Insulate pipes to prevent freezing.
- Consider what to use for emergency heat in case the electricity goes out:
 - Fireplace with ample supply of wood.
 - Small, well-vented camp stove with fuel.
 - Portable space or kerosene heater (check with your fire department first).
- Understand the heating system in your home. Be aware that the most destructive home fires happen during winter weather due to improper use of heating devices.
- To prevent water damage from burst pipes, keep your home's temperature above

freezing, even if you are away.

- Keep your car's gas tank full to keep the fuel line from freezing and for emergency use.
- Make sure you have an adequate amount of winter clothing and blankets for your family.
- To slow the accumulation of snow and ice on your driveway and outside steps, pretreat these surfaces by spreading a small amount of rock salt.
- Watch for signs of frostbite: loss of feeling or pale appearance in extremities.
- Watch for signs of hypothermia: uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, slurred speech and drowsiness. If signs of hypothermia are detected, keep victims warm by removing all wet clothing, warm the center of their bodies first and seek medical attention immediately.

• Travel only if you must, during the day and on main roads.

If trapped in a car

If you are trapped in your car by a blizzard:

- Pull to the side of the road and put the hazard lights on.
- Remain in the vehicle, where rescuers are most likely to find you.
- Run the engine for 10 minutes every hour to keep warm.
- Exercise to maintain body heat, but do not overexert yourself.
- Drink fluids to avoid dehydration.
- At night, take turns sleeping and turn the inside light on.
- Be careful not to waste battery power.
- If stranded in a remote area, stomp large block letters in an open area that spell "HELP" or "SOS."
- Leave the car on foot only if absolutely necessary and the blizzard has passed.

For more information, call the Fort Sam Houston Ready Army Coordinator, Brad Barrett at 295-0534 or visit www.samhouston.army.mil/readyarmy/.

(Source: Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security)



Sports

Fort Sam Houston '10 Miler'

Fort Sam Houston Sports and Fitness Branch will host a 10-mile qualifier for the Fort Sam Houston Running Team Jan. 11 at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center beginning at 7 a.m. Interested participants can register at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center or same day registration will begin at 6 a.m. on run day. A registration fee of \$18 for military and \$25 for all others will apply. The 10-Miler is open to the military and local community. For more information, call 221-1234.

Raiders Futbol Club

Try-out for men's division one soccer team begins Jan. 11, college experience or better preferred. For more information, call 365-6484 or e-mail oscarlupiba@sbc-global.net.

Personal trainers available

Jimmy Brought Fitness Center offers one-on-one personal train-

ing, as well as, small group (2-5 people) training. Group training creates a more motivating, successful and fun work-out time. The fitness center has a staff of 7 personal trainers certified by The Cooper's Institute of Aerobics, with a few trainers specializing in running and swimming. In addition, comprehensive physical assessments such as Body Mass Index, tapings, cardio and strength assessments and basic nutritional information are available. For more information, call 221-1234.

Intramural Ping Pong

Fort Sam Houston Intramural Ping Pong season will begin Jan. 20. For more information, call Earl Young, 221-3185.

Intramural Billiard

Fort Sam Houston Intramural Billiard season will begin Jan. 22. For more information, call Earl Young, 221-3185.

Team line-up



Courtesy photo

(Front to back) Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Deickman, Col. William Layden, Jamie Miller and Tim Morris, members of the Fort Sam Houston Judo Club line up before the Alamo Classic Judo tournament Dec. 6 at Palo Alto College in San Antonio. Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Deickman won first place in the men's 100kg+ division; Jamie Miller placed first in the men's 90kg division, and Col. Layden won second place in the open division. A video of the competition is available at www.sajudo.com. The judo club is free and open to all active duty, Reserve and National Guard Soldiers. For more information, call Karl Johansen at 279-1742 or e-mail kjohansen@satx.rr.com.

BRAC from P4

tion of two buildings at Port San Antonio that total approximately 452,000 square feet of space. The contractor is Environmental Chemical Corporation headquartered in Burlingame, Calif. The corporation will oversee this project through its regional office in San Antonio. The two buildings will be altered to create administrative and support space for as many as 2,700 military personnel and civilian employees who work for 10 Air Force and joint agencies that are being relocated.

AFCEE also awarded a \$4 million contract to modify Hangar 6 on Randolph Air Force Base to support the realignment of a pilot training mission from Moody Air Force Base. The contract was awarded to Innovative Technical Solutions,

Incorporated, which operates a regional office in San Antonio and is headquartered in Walnut Creek, Calif. About 15,000 square feet of the hangar will be renovated to accommodate an Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals training mission.

These three contracts are among as many as 29 contracts worth more than \$700 million that are scheduled to be awarded for BRAC and other military construction projects in Fiscal 2009, which runs through Sept. 30. These contracts come in addition to the \$1.2 billion in construction contracts that were awarded in Fiscal 2008. The prime contractors that receive these contracts are expected to hire a multitude of subcontractors from the San Antonio area to help complete the various projects.

See BRAC P11



Housing Update

Utility service reimbursement policy

The Department of the Army implemented a utility service reimbursement policy for all privatized housing that will either reward residents for energy conservation or charge for excess utility consumption.

The policy was implemented to comply with the Office of the Secretary of Defense's Utility Policy. The Department of Defense has mandated per the Army Residential Communities Initiative Utility Policy, dated March 27, 2007 that residents of family housing are responsible for paying for utilities.

Lincoln Military Housing conducted "mock billing" for one year and started "actual billing" in August 2008 under the Resident Utility Program.

During the last billing cycle, 28 percent of the residents received bills, 26 percent of

residents were given a credit and 45 percent of residents are within the baseline average.

LMH wants to remind residents of the importance of paying any utility balances in a timely manner. If residents owe a balance over 60 days, it could affect their residency status and their credit. LMH currently has 91 residents who owe a balance of over 60 days or more.

Call the village manager as soon as possible, with questions regarding utility bills or if a balance is owed.

Village managers can be contacted at the Resident Community Center, 270-7638; Harris Heights Community Center, 824-9587 or Watkins Terrace Community Center, 832-8104.

(Source: Residential Communities Initiative)

BRAC from P10

About BRAC in San Antonio: The San Antonio BRAC construction program is an initiative to provide the facilities for the military personnel and missions that are moving to and within the city as a result of the 2005 BRAC process. Construction work is scheduled to take place across San Antonio at Fort Sam Houston, Camp Bullis, Lackland and Randolph Air Force Bases through September 2011. The BRAC program involves building and renovating as many as 78 major facilities that amount to more than six million square feet of space. The total cost is projected to exceed \$2 billion. The BRAC projects are part of a larger military construction

program in San Antonio, which encompasses more than \$3 billion of projects that represent about 10 million square feet of space.

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

(Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District)

East defeats West during All-American Bowl

By Rich Lamance
Army News Service

In what has become the U.S. Army's premier showcase of both the nation's best talent of high school football athletes and it's most courageous and decorated Soldier-Heroes, the All-American all-star high school football game made its ninth appearance on Saturday.

In a contest that pitted the best players from the East and West, the East team had little trouble defeating the West, 30 to 17 in front of 32,732 fans and a live national audience at the Alamodome in San Antonio.

During pre-game activities 85 Soldier-Heroes, representing the active duty, Reserve and National Guard, were each paired with a player from either the West or East team and recognized on the field prior to kickoff. All Soldier-Heroes received either the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star or Purple Heart.

This year's game registered a first with a husband and wife Soldier-Hero team from Fort Bragg, N.C., involved with pre-game activities with their son, a starting player on the East team.

Pre-game activities began with a precision display of rifle wizardry from the U.S. Army Drill Team, a specialty unit of

the 3rd U.S. Infantry (Old Guard). The Soldiers used bayonet-tipped 1903-style Springfield rifles to perform their routines. The 82nd Airborne Division Chorus, from Fort Bragg, provided the music during the pre-game ceremony.

A group of more than 100 delayed entry program recruits from the San Antonio area took their oath of enlistment from the Army's Vice Chief of Staff, Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli. Training and Doctrine Command commanding general, Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, administered the oath of office to two area ROTC cadets commissioned as second lieutenants. Cadet Barry Johnson-Rivera was pinned by his mother, Command Sgt. Maj. Frances Rivera; and Cadet Alexandra Brenner was pinned by Maj. Gen. Arthur Bartell, commanding general of the U.S. Army Cadet Command.

Two Medal of Honor recipients, retired Army Maj. Gen. Patrick Brady, from San Antonio, and Mr. Clarence Sasser of Rosharon, Texas, were also recognized during the ceremony. The pre-game activities were capped by the game ball presented by a Special Forces team rappelling from the rafters onto the field. The coin toss was presented by Secretary of the Army Pete Geren, along with Gen. Chiarelli, Sergeant



Photo by Benjamin Faske

The West team (white jerseys) starts an offensive drive at the start of the U.S. Army-sponsored All-American Bowl football game pitting the top high school athletes in the nation. The East team won the contest 30-17.

Major of the Army Kenneth O. Preston and Staff Sgt. Jason Fetty, a Soldier-Hero from Fort Bragg.

Command Sgt. Major Kenneth E. Nixon, Sr., a battalion command sergeant major with the 189th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, currently deployed to Afghanistan, and his wife, Master Sgt. Fotini Nixon, the G-1 sergeant major with the XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, were both designated as Soldier-Heroes for the event, and both were on hand to see their son Xavier play as an offensive lineman for the East Team. Xavier, 18, played both offense and defensive tackle for Jack Britt High School in Fayetteville, N.C., and at 6'7" and 270 lbs., is considered one of the premiere linemen in the nation.

"It was really a great honor to have the opportunity to share this special moment with my son," said Command Sgt. Maj. Nixon. "This was the first game of his senior year that I had the chance to physically see him play. He looks awesome!"

Xavier's mom had the opportunity to meet her son on the

playing field before kickoff, as part of the pre-game activities that introduced both players and Soldier-Heroes to the audience. "It was very exciting to be paired up with my son as his Soldier-Hero," said Master Sgt. Nixon. "This entire week has been exciting, especially having the opportunity to spend time with him and my husband during the week. It was also a great honor to be selected as a Soldier-Hero."

The Soldier-Heroes spent several days before the game interacting with their player counterparts in events ranging from a skills competition that included a challenge of push ups, sit-ups and an eating competition, to a River Walk cruise, a barbeque and a special dinner honoring both heroes and players.

"I was able to meet a young high school all star from LaGrange, Ga., about 60 miles from where I live," said Sgt. 1st Class Brandon Fambro, a human resources NCO with a Georgia-based Army Reserve unit, who earned the Bronze Star during tours in Balad, Iraq, from 2005 to 2007. "The player, Chris Burnette, is a humble ath-

lete who looks up to Soldiers and the military overall. As a Soldier-Hero, I hope that the players saw we exemplified all of the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage."

Another Soldier-Hero, Sgt. Brandon Hasson, an infantryman with Alpha Company, 4th Battalion, 51st Infantry, Fort Drum, N.Y., was wounded in Iraq by an Improvised Explosive Device, receiving the Purple Heart during his last deployment. He says that many of the values he and his fellow Soldiers learn and develop in the Army can be used, not only on the gridiron, but throughout a person's life.

"I passed on to my player a true sense of personal courage and a sense of loyalty to his team, his family and most importantly to himself. Personal courage that gives him the knowledge that there's nothing that can stopping him from achieving anything he wants to achieve, and that when his career is over in high school, college or the pro's, he can make something out of whatever comes his way."



Photo by Minnie Jones

The U.S. Army Field Band of Washington, DC, performs during half time at the U.S. Army All-American Bowl at San Antonio's Alamodome, Jan 5. The band is the official touring musical representative of the U.S. Army.

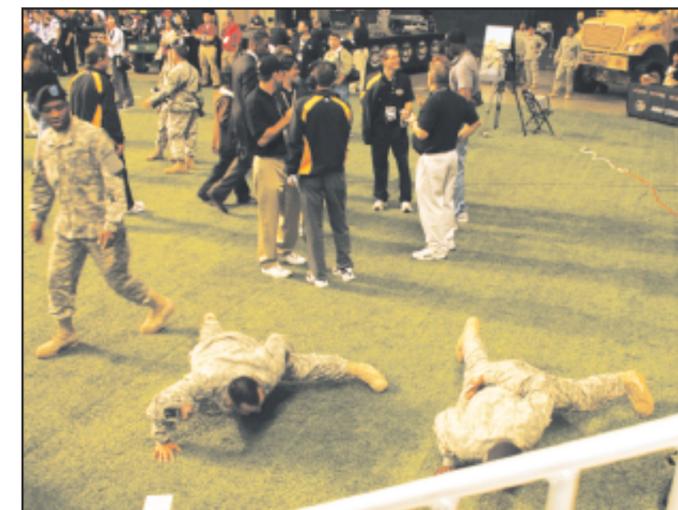


Photo by Minnie Jones

U.S. Army Recruiter, Staff Sgt. Jose Nieto, challenges Pvt. James Devaull from A Company, 264th Medical Battalion, Fort Sam Houston to a competition of pushups during half time at the U.S. Army All-American Bowl, in the Alamodome in San Antonio Jan 5.



Photo by Minnie Jones

(From left) Sgt. 1st Class Nikisha Thornhill, Staff Sgts. Patrick Simmons and Chimea Harris, from A Company, 232nd Medical Battalion volunteer Jan. 5 to help out at the Alamodome during the "All-American" Bowl.



Photo by Benjamin Faske

Soldier-hero Master Sgt. James Williams III orders East player Barrett Jones to perform push-ups moments before the start of the Army sponsored "All-American" Bowl in San Antonio Jan. 5.

Fort Sam Houston Independent School District

Weekly Campus Activities – Jan. 12 to 16

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School	p.m.
Gifted and Talented Education Testing (G.A.T.E.) – All week	UIL Oral Interpretation and Extemp speaking events meeting, 3 to 4:30 p.m.
Jan. 16	Jan. 14
Early dismissal, 11 a.m.	Semester exams – second and seventh period
End of second nine weeks	Jan. 15
Spirit Day	Semester exams – third and eighth period
	Jan. 16
	Early dismissal, 1:30 p.m.
Robert G. Cole Middle and High School	Jan. 16
Jan. 12	Semester exams – fourth and fifth period
Winter Athletic C-Awards in Cole Gym, 7p.m.	Early dismissal, 1:30 p.m.
Jan. 13	Boys' soccer San Antonio Independent School District Tournament, TBA
Semester Exams – first and sixth period	End of second nine weeks (43 days) and end of first semester (87 days)
Boys' JV/V basketball at Johnson City, 5 and 8 p.m.	Jan. 17
Girls' JV/V basketball at Johnson City, 5 and 6:30 p.m.	Boys' soccer SAISD Tournament, TBA
Girls' soccer at Holy Cross, 4:30	

Cole Cagers shine at holiday tournaments

The Robert G. Cole High school varsity boy's basketball team completed a successful round of games during the holidays.

On Dec. 19 and 20, the boys finished third at the Yoakum Tournament, winning three of four games. The Cougars defeated East Bernard (2A) 47-18 and Yoakum (3A) 54-24.

At the tournament, coaches deemed the lone loss in the semifinals against Moulton (1A), 46-51 as the best high school game they had seen all

season.

In the third place game, Cole defeated El Campo (4A) 64-63. Lemon Hodges and Jullian Jones were voted All-Tournament.

On Dec. 29 and 30, the boys competed in the Devine Tournament and won the championship by defeating all four of their opponents. On Monday, the team defeated Jourdanton (2A) in overtime 65-60 and Marion (3A) 66-36.

On Tuesday, the Cougs overcame a sluggish start and

a 26 point first-half deficit to defeat Santa Rosa (2A) 69-67 in the semifinals, and defeated Poth (2A) 55-39 in the finals. Lemon Hodges and LaQuan Smith were voted All-Tournament, while Corey Tillman garnered MVP honors.

Jan. 2 the JV and Varsity recorded district wins against Comfort. This was the district opener for the boys. The varsity won 57-41.

The boy's next game is this Friday, on the road at Harper. (Source: FSHISD)

Semester exam schedule set for Cole Middle, High School

Semester exams for the fall semester will take place Jan. 13 to 16. The schedule is as follows:

- Jan. 13 – First and sixth period exams
- Jan. 14 – Second and seventh period exams
- Jan. 15 – Third and eighth period exams
- Jan. 16 – Fourth and fifth period exams

Students will be dismissed at 1:30 p.m. Jan. 15 and 16.

FSHISD seeks an elementary school nurse

The Fort Sam Houston Independent School District is looking for an elementary school nurse. The position is full-time, 187 days per year. The start date is Jan. 20. A valid Texas Registered Nursing license is required; school experience and Texas School Nurse certificate preferred. See salary schedule for details, apply online at www.fshisd.net, click on the Human Resources page. For more information, call Personnel at 368-8713.



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Dining and Entertainment

Harlequin Dinner Theatre

The Unexpected Guest

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre presents, The Unexpected Guest, a mystery by Agatha Christie, Jan. 14 through Feb. 21. This thriller is set in a foggy estate in Wales; this mystery opens as a stranger walks into a house to find a man murdered and his wife standing over him with a gun. Tickets are \$31 for Friday and Saturday performances; and \$28 for Wednesday and Thursday performances. Discounts are available for military and students. The theater opens 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. For more information, or to make reservations, call the Harlequin Dinner Theatre at 222-9694. The box office is open from noon to 5 p.m. weekdays and from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

Auditions for 'Pump boys and Dinettes'

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre will hold open auditions for "Pump Boys and Dinettes," a musical revue, Jan 26 and 27 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. both nights with Missy Miller directing. There are roles for two women and four men. People who come to audition should have a musical number prepared. Other volunteers are needed for lights, sound, props and stage crew. For more information, call the Harlequin Dinner Theatre at 222-9694.

Sam Houston Club

Learn how to play Texas Hold'em

Fort Sam Houston Club will host Learn How to Play Texas Hold'em Jan. 25 from 1 to 3 p.m. There will be a \$5 fee per player. Sam's Sports Bar will be open with specials throughout the day. Snacks will be provided. Players must be 18 yrs or older. For more information, call 224-2721.

Super Bowl Party

Sam Houston Club will host a Super Bowl Party in Sam's Sports Bar

Feb. 1 from 4 p.m. to midnight. There will be a \$5 cover charge with free snacks and specials throughout the evening. Patrons must be 18 years or older for admission. For more information, call 224-2721.

Big Bucks Bingo

The Sam Houston Club will hold Big Bucks Bingo the first Saturday of every other month. The next Big Bucks Bingo will be held Feb. 7 with a guaranteed \$13,000 payout. Community Bingo will begin at noon with a free buffet served for all bingo players. For more information, call 224-2721.

Karaoke Fridays

Come by the Sam Houston Club every Friday at 7 p.m. for free karaoke. Practice vocals or just come out and have fun with friends to celebrate the end of the work week. For more information, call 224-2721.

BOSS Super Bowl party

The Fort Sam Houston Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program will sponsor a Super Bowl Party Feb. 1 at 5 p.m. Enjoy the game on a big screen while munching on goodies such as cotton candy, popcorn, finger foods, and the snack bar. Door prizes awarded every quarter. For more information, call 221-2810.

Recreation and Leisure

RV Park at Canyon Lake closes for upgrades

Fort Sam Houston Recreational Area RV Park at Canyon Lake will close for some major work beginning the first of the year for about 30 days. Upgrades will be performed on 10 pad sites that will include utility and sewage connections; an adjacent 10-foot by 20-foot concrete patio and cover with charcoal Barbecue grill and a fire ring. The electrical pedestal will have 50 amp, 30 amp and 15 amp RV outlets. In addition, six other back-in RV pad sites will be upgraded. Only the RV park portion of the recreational area will be closed. The remainder of the park including cottages, cabins, tents and dry camping will be open. The marina will also be fully operational. For more information, call 830-226-5357.

Fort Sam Houston Golf Club

Warrior monthly scramble

Fort Sam Golf Club will host a Warriors Monthly Scramble the first Friday of every month with a 12:30 p.m. Shotgun Start. Register at the Golf Club Pro Shop, players range from one to four people. Registration fee is \$25. For more information, call 222-9386.

Bowling center Lunch and Bowl

Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center will host Lunch and Bowl Wednesdays, beginning Jan. 14, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Participants will receive one free game of bowling and free shoes with the purchase of a meal item. The Bowling Center will provide a limited menu on these days. For more information, call 221-4740.

Child, Youth and School Services

4-H Appreciation Night

The School Age Services Program will participate in the 4-H Appreciation Night at the San Antonio Spurs vs. New Jersey Nets basketball game Jan. 23 at 6 p.m. The cost is \$12, which includes game admission, hotdog, soda and chips. Advanced sign up is required by Jan. 16. Space is limited. Participants must have current SAS membership to sign up. For more information, call 221-4466.

Parent Advisory Council

A Child, Youth and School Services Parent Advisory Council meeting will be held Jan. 20 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Child Development Center. Lunch will be provided. This is

an opportunity to meet staff, attend parent workshops and learn about upcoming events. All CYSS patrons are encouraged to attend. PAC meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month. For more information, call 221-4871 or 221-1723.

SKIES program

The The School of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills program offers instructional classes for children three to 18 years old, in tennis, dance, piano, martial arts, and hit and pitch baseball. For more information, call 471-9548.



Pre-Deployment training

Army Community Service Mobilization and Deployment Program will hold a Pre-Deployment Planning training Jan. 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at ACS, Building 2797. This training is designed to increase the Spouse's ability to face deployments with resilience and strength, allowing easier separations. Register by Jan. 8 at 4 p.m. For more information or to sign up call, 221-2705 or e-mail samh.acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil.

See FMWR P16

FMWR from P15**Post-Deployment training**

Army Community Service Mobilization and Deployment Program will hold a Post Deployment Planning training Jan. 13 from 9 to 10 a.m. This training is designed to increase the Spouse's ability to face deployments with resilience and strength, allowing smoother reunions. Register by Jan. 9 at 4 p.m. For more information or to register, call 221-2705 or e-mail samh.acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil.

Women encouraging women

Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program will hold Women Encouraging Women lunchtime seminar Jan. 13 and 20 from 12 to 1 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. The topic will be boundaries. Learn how to set healthy boundaries, control habits, money and time and for spouse and children. For more information or to

register, call 221-0349 or 221-0600.

Understanding your child's mind

The Army Community Services will host an eight-week Family workshop by Precious Minds Parenting Initiative Jan. 13 through March 3 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Dodd Field Chapel. The workshop will cover different topics each week such as, parenting challenges, anger, discipline, communication, and building self-esteem. For more information or to register, call Chandra Peterson at 221-2055 or 221-0349 or Vicky Rine at 659-2539 or 913-3339.

Sibling Silliness class

Army Community Services will hold a Sibling Silliness class Jan. 15 and 29 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Red Cross, Building 2650. The class is designed to help parents learn skills to deal with sibling conflicts and how to encourage good feelings between siblings. For more information and to register, call 221-0349 or e-mail

thelma.t.kegley@us.army.com

Blended Families

Family Advocacy will hold a class for blended Families Jan. 14 and 21 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Army Community Service, Building 2797. Learn tips on how to avoid the pitfalls blended Families can experience and how to improve on existing relationships. This class will also look at some of the challenges in making two Families one. Discussion topics include, discipline, financial responsibilities and co-parenting issues and concerns. For more information or to register, call 221-0349 or e-mail thelma.t.kegley@us.army.com.

Immigration Services visit ACS

The San Antonio Field Office for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will be available at the Relocation Readiness Program Jan. 15 from noon to 2 p.m., at Army Community Service, Building 2797. Soldiers and Family members can get answers on immigration questions, assistance with forms and address concerns. For more information, call 221-9698 or 221-1681.

Infant massage classes

The Army Community Services New Parent Support Program will hold infant massage classes for babies from birth to one-year olds Jan. 22 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. The program will be held in five weekly sessions. Massage benefits may include helping babies and parents sleep better and longer, decrease stress and crying, and may help relieve baby's discomfort caused by gas or colic. Infant massage helps promote bonding and attachment between babies and their caregivers. For more information or to register, call 221-0655.

Microsoft classes offered in ACS computer lab

Army Community Service opened the doors to its new computer lab in December. Twenty-four computers with internet connections are available for use by the community.

Computer classes will begin Jan. 12 at Army Community Service, Building 2797 in the computer lab. Jennifer Lobo, a certified Microsoft instructor, will teach classes in Excel, Word and PowerPoint. Classes are available for all active duty Soldiers, spouses and civilian employees.

Excel 1 will be held Jan. 12 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The class will introduce the Excel workbook, teach people how to edit and format data and how to use basic formulas.

Excel 2 will be offered Jan. 23 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The class will cover calculating with advanced formulas, sorting and filtering data.

Word 1 will be held Jan. 14 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. The class will instruct the user on how to create a basic work document, format paragraphs, insert graphics, create lists, insert tables, and how to save a document.

PowerPoint 1 will be offered Jan. 21 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Students will learn to create a presentation, format slides, add transitions and animation, and how to save a presentation as well as how to create an e-card.

For more information or to sign up, call 221-1841 or e-mail jennifer.lobo@us.army.mil.

**Commanders training**

The Family Advocacy Program, Commander and Senior Leader training course is for new commanders, first sergeants, and senior leaders will be held the second Thursday of every month from 8 to 10 a.m. at the Army Community Service, Building 2797 Stanley Road. This training needs to be completed within 45 days upon assumption of the positions. For more information or to register, call 221-0349 or e-mail thelma.t.kegley@us.army.com.

AFTB program volunteer needed

Army Community Service is seeking an Army Family Team Building master trainer volunteer program

manager. The duties are to assist in planning and coordinating of classes and recruiting of instructors, marketing and promoting AFTB classes and maintaining AFTB files. For more information, call 221-9181 or 221-2705.

Military, Family Life Consultant

Army Community Service offers a Military and Family Life Consultant Program for service members and their Families. The MFLC Program addresses issues that occur across the military lifestyle and helps service members and Families cope with normal reactions to the stressful events created by deployments, war and reintegration. For more information, call the local MFLC consultant at 376-7824.

Community

Meetings**Warrant Officer Association**

The Lone Star Silver Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association will meet Dec. 20 at 3 p.m. at Juan Gomez's House. All active duty, retired, Reserve, National Guard warrant officers and Family members of current or retired warrant officers are invited. For more information, call Juan Gomez at 295-6596, e-mail juan.gomez@us.army.mil or Jim Gonzales at 666-9818, e-mail rgonzales879@satx.rr.com.

Conquering debt God's way

The Installation Chaplain Office will offer a 6-week study on financial management principles. The one-hour course begins Jan. 18 at 9:30 a.m. at the Installation Chaplain Office. The course will be facilitated by Chaplain (Maj.) Kim Norwood. Through this empowering course, you will learn how to rapidly eliminate debt, save for the future, restore harmony in your marriage, and retire with confidence. The course is open to all I.D. cardholders. For more information or to register, e-mail kim.norwood@amedd.army.mil.

Employer Support Freedom Award

Texas Guard and Reservists can nominate employers who have gone above and beyond in their support of military employees for the 2009 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. Nominations will be accepted through Jan. 19 at www.FreedomAward.mil. For information about the Freedom Award nomination process, please visit www.FreedomAward.mil or call Beth Sherman, ESGR Public Affairs, at 703-380-9717.

Events**New Braunfels concert**

The Voice of Elvis and Legends will hold a concert Jan. 10 at 7 p.m. at the Brauntex Theater of Performing Arts, 290 W. San Antonio, New Braunfels, Texas. Singer Jesse Aron, an International Champion, and one of the top three Elvis Tribute Artist's in the Country and his wife, Tarie will host the event. For more information, call 830-627-0808.

Windows on Texas Music Festival

The Texas Rebel Radio Network's 7th Annual Windows on Texas Music Festival and Industry Conference will be held Jan. 15 to 18 in Fredericksburg, Texas. This year's event will showcase the talents of the

Soldier Show auditions

The U.S. Army Soldier Show seeks talented individuals to audition by Jan. 22. Army Entertainment Division needs vocalists, dancers, musicians, technicians and specialty acts for the song-and-dance extravaganza. For more information or technical inquiries, call Army Soldier Show Production Assistant Sgt. Daren Taylor at 703-380-8879, or e-mail at daren.taylor@us.army.mil.

Financial planning, pre-retirement seminar

The Alamo Federal Executive Board in Collaboration with the Fort Sam Houston Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will hold a financial planning and pre-retirement seminar Jan. 29 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Evans Theater, Building 1396. Federal employees interested in long or short-range retirement planning and learning about a particular retirement system. Topics will include retirement systems; Thrift Savings Plan; Social Security Benefits; Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance and Survivor Benefits, and other topics. Bring the following statements with you, a current leave and earnings, TSP statement and an annual Social Security statement. To register, call Lena Boutelle at 221-0639, or e-mail lena.m.boutelle@us.army.mil. Reservations are required.

Training**SAMC study group**

The Sergeant Majors of the Army Leon Van Autreve Chapter Sergeant Audie Murphy Club will hold a study group Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon to 1 p.m. in Building 1394, Room 215. For more information, call 221-4028.

**LET'S RODEO, FORT SAM HOUSTON!**

Fort Sam Houston Garrison Night at the San Antonio Rodeo
Feb. 6 at 7:30 PM at the AT&T Center, One AT&T Center Parkway, San Antonio, TX 78219

Featured Entertainment - Gary Allan

Over the course of his career, Gary Allan has established himself as a country singer who prides himself in being authentic. What you see is what you get. No smoke about that! The California-bred singer does a great ballad, but when it comes to a rockin' good time, he is almost impossible to top. We are glad he is making his way back to the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo with his latest CD, "Living Hard" which includes the chart topping radio hit, "Watching Airplanes". Other radio hits include: "Life Ain't Always Beautiful," "Man to Man," "Right Where I Need to Be," "Smoke Rings in the Dark," and "Nothing On But the Radio."

**Open to All Garrison Employees, Family Members and Friends \$15 per Ticket**

Fill out the form below and return with payment to U.S. Army Garrison Headquarters, Building 122, or Camp Bullis Employees return to Camp Bullis Headquarters, Building 5000, no later than Jan. 15. For more information on the San Antonio Rodeo, visit <http://www.sarodeo.com/>

Name: _____ Directorate: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of Tickets: _____ @ \$15 each Total Enclosed \$ _____

Cash, Check or Money Order - Make Payable to Paul Dvorak
USAG POC: Loretta Belz 210-221-9607 Camp Bullis POC: Paty Chavarria 210-295-7611



Worship Schedule

Main Post Chapel, Building 2200, 221-2754

Catholic Services:

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

Protestant Services - Sundays:

8 a.m. - Collective Protestant
11 a.m. - Collective Protestant

Jewish Services: 379-8666 or 493-6660

8 p.m. - Fridays - Worship and 8:30 p.m. - Oneg Shabbat

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

Catholic Services:

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

Protestant Services:

10:30 a.m. - Gospel Protestant - Sundays
9:30 to 11:30 a.m. - Protestant Women of the Chapel
meeting - Wednesdays, child care is provided
6:30 to 7:30 p.m. - Protestant Women of the Chapel
meeting - Thursdays, child care is provided
Samoan Protestant Service: 8:30 a.m. - Sundays

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

Catholic Services:

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Sundays

11 a.m. - Mass - Sundays

Protestant Services:

10 a.m. - Worship Service - Sundays

Episcopal/Lutheran Rite services:

12:30 p.m. - Traditional worship - Thursdays

Center for the Intrepid, first floor, 916-1105

Christ for the Intrepid services:

5:30 p.m. - Coffee and fellowship - Sundays

6 p.m. - Contemporary worship - Sundays

AMEDD Regimental Chapel, Building 1398, 221-4362

32nd Medical Brigade Student services

Catholic Mass: 8 a.m. - Sundays

Contemporary Protestant Service: 9:30 a.m. -
Sundays

Muslim Jumma: 1:30 p.m. - Fridays

Fort Sam Houston Library, Building 1222, 221-4702

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints:

8:30 a.m. - Sundays

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

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

Web site:

www.samhouston.army.mil/chaplain

For Sale Fort Freebies

Submission guidelines:

Freebies are published on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline is noon Monday. Freebies are intended for personal household goods, and may only be submitted by active, retired or reserve military members and civilian employees working on Fort Sam Houston. Real estate and employment ads will not be published. To submit a Fort Freebie, e-mail news.leader@conus.army.mil or fax to 221-1198. Freebies can only be ran twice. Limit of five items per entry. For more information, call 221-0615.

For Sale: Projection TV, 50 inch, \$300; chaise lounge, light beige, new \$175; black sofa/sleeper, for child's room, \$150; dining table with six chairs, two-piece hutch, buffet, French Provincial, cream color, \$900. Call 697-9261 or 363-4056.

For Sale: Razor scooter, one seat, battery powered, pink, excellent condition, \$125. Call 464-6761.

For Sale: Washer and dryer, \$100. Call 464-6761.

For Sale: Two used professional sport bikes, men's style with crossbar, one blue Novara Randonee, \$49, one red Novara Strada, \$69, both for \$100. Need refurbishing, original price tag on one bike, \$495. Call 659-6741.

For Sale: 1991 Ford F150, single cab, long bed, 6 cylinder engine, 5-speed standard transmission, runs very good, cruise control, dual fuel tanks, A/C, \$2,400. Call 648-5907 or 687-3980.

For Sale: 22 inch Gitano Blades rims with Cooper Extra Load tires, size 114V (305/40R22) tires, \$1,500, negotiable, includes one extra rim. Call 292-4183 or 689-5433.

For Sale: Pet houses, \$40 and \$70; Pug, male, two years old, \$275; four 15 inch tires, \$70; refrigerator, four feet high, \$95; Risistol hat, size 7.25, like new, \$65. Call 633-3859.

For Sale: Lighted coffee table

aquarium, \$275 obo; rectangular fish tank, \$50; two strollers, \$5 and \$15; two-room tent, \$65; maternity clothes, sizes 20 to 24, \$2 and up. Call 412-2151 after 7 p.m.

For Sale: Exercise machine, new, \$200; large custom-made dog house, \$250; buffet, \$50; oak desk, \$45; four 16 inch tires, \$50. Call 633-2247.

For Sale: TV stand, black with glass door, \$35; office chair, black, adjustable height level, \$30; wood end table, \$25; small wood folding table with two chairs, \$40; computer desk with file drawer, light wood, \$35. Call Sandy at 241-1291 or 637-7322.

For Sale: Set of four tires, 215/60/15, good condition, willing to help with installation, \$65 obo. Call 271-9250.

For Sale: Adorable 14K gold teddy bear necklace with black velvet jeweler's box, \$50; ladies clothes, size 6, skirts, pants, tops, jackets, in good condition, all for \$40. Call 656-9341.

For Sale: Pair of metal ramps, \$75. Call Mary at 310-0162.

Free: German shepherd, 8 years old, male, black and tan, very obedient, loving nature, includes large crate, needs loving home. Kirby, Texas. Call 421-1871.

Free: Guinea pigs, three males and two females, tri-colored, free to good home. Call 313-5225.

PWOC Spring Kickoff

The Protestant Women of the Chapel will host the Spring Kickoff Jan. 14 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Dodd Field Chapel. The Protestant Women of the Chapel is a Christ-centered group that encourages women to grow spiritually withing the body of Christ through prayer, the study of God's word, worship and service. A Bible study is held Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Child care is provided. For more information, call 221-5007.

Religious Briefs