

# FORT SAM HOUSTON News Leader

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"HOME OF ARMY MEDICINE"

## Hands-on training



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jaime Subia

Spcs. David Kloberdanz (left) and Daniel Zurschmeide check for chlorine residuals in pool water at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. The Soldiers are students in the Preventive Medicine Specialist Course. During the 15-week course, students learn everything from insect identification to pool water safety so they can keep their fellow Soldiers injury and disease-free. *See related story, Page 14.*

## Town Hall meeting updates community on BRAC plans

By Minnie Jones  
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

A near-capacity crowd of 250 attended the first in a series of Base Realignment and Closure Town Hall meetings May 28 at the Army Community Service center.

Col. Wendy Martinson, garrison commander, Fort Sam Houston, and Mike Hartman, base transformation officer, hosted the event.

Last Wednesday's meeting, an open forum led by Martinson, was the first in a series of meetings that were given across Fort Sam Houston to inform people about what can be expected during the BRAC transformation and construction.

Hartman opened his briefing by introducing himself to the crowd and by saying "that the growth and transformation of Fort Sam Houston in the next three to four years is going to be very exciting."

BRAC 2005 recommendations to expand Fort Sam Houston in becoming the Department of

See **TOWN HALL P7**

## INSIDE

REAL-WORLD  
SCENARIO



ARNORTH  
sharpens civil  
support capabilities

PAGE 3

STOP, LOOK,  
LISTEN



Pedestrians, drivers  
should practice  
caution on post

PAGE 4

GO GREEN



DPTMS 'goes  
green' with  
mountain bikes

PAGE 5

## PEB works to deliver fair outcome for Soldiers

By Elaine Wilson  
Fort Sam Houston Public Information  
Office

Col. Troy Lovett considers himself a mythbuster of sorts.

As the president of the Physical Evaluation Board here, Lovett spends a considerable amount of time setting the record straight about the PEB process, which determines whether Soldiers are fit or unfit for duty.

"Soldiers may hear some-

"Soldiers have multiple opportunities to voice their concerns with those who can do something about it. We work hard at doing the right thing."

Col. Troy Lovett  
President of the Physical Evaluation Board

thing from a buddy or a blog, and accept it as fact," he said. "There are a lot of myths out there about the system."

Since the PEB deals with

money and careers, the rumor mill may be inevitable, but Lovett hopes one truth remains evident, "The reality is that we are all focused on

making sure Soldiers are treated fairly and receive their full due process."

At Fort Sam Houston, a 16-person staff, skilled in medical and military matters, is dedicated to carrying out the PEB mission, which echoes Lovett's words, "Provide a full and fair hearing to determine a Soldier's physical fitness for continued military service ..."

See **PEB P9**

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# Post celebrates Army's birthday, Flag Day

Col. Wendy Martinson, commander, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Sam Houston, will host the Army's 233rd birthday and the 231st anniversary of "Old Glory" June 13 at 10 a.m. at the main post flagpole on Stanley Road, Fort Sam Houston.

The ceremony will include Soldiers in period uniforms who will add 178 battle streamers to the U.S. Army flag, and a variety of patriotic music performed by the U.S. Army Medical Command Band.

The public can enter Fort Sam Houston through the Walters gate off of Interstate Highway 35 or the Harry Wurzbach gate.



Photo by Esther Garcia

Command Sgt. Maj. Timothy Burke, Army Medical Department Center and School, and Soldiers assigned to Brooke Army Medical Center, U.S. Army South, 470th Military Intelligence Brigade and 32nd Medical Brigade participate in the Army streamer presentation celebrating the Army's 232nd birthday last year.

## News Leader

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# American flag deserves respect, dignity

By Staff Sgt. Miguel Verdinez  
Special to the News Leader

With the U.S. Army Birthday and Flag Day fast approaching on June 14th, it is a fitting time to honor the symbol of American pride ... the U.S. flag.

In 1885, Bernard Cigrand, a great American teacher, began educating Americans about the real meaning and majesty of the flag. In doing so, he set June 14 as the flag's birthday or what people now know as Flag Day.

Throughout the nation, the American flag can be seen flying over homes and business-

es; however, many people do not know exactly what each aspect of the flag represents. Eric Rolfe, from Fort Sam Houston Boy Scout Troop 23, explains the symbolism behind the flag.

"The stars represent the heavens and embrace the unity of the 50 individual states, one nation under God, indivisible ... The red stripes symbolize courage and human sacrifice, while the white stripes represent liberty, purity and integrity. Finally, the field of blue signifies the divine pursuit of truth and justice."

The symbolism behind the



Courtesy photo

(From left) Eric Rolfe, Luke Kershaw, Levi Rolfe and Frank Thompson, from Fort Sam Houston Boy Scout Troop 23, demonstrate how to properly fold a U.S. flag. Rolfe plans to collect unserviceable U.S. flags Saturday and retire them as part of an Eagle Scout Service Project.

flag summarizes American values and ideals and it is for this reason so many fly the U.S. flag. The U.S. Flag Code written for proper flag etiquette must always be followed with regard to the flag. The American flag is supposed to be treated as through it were a living object; therefore, it must be handled with the utmost care and dignity. This care includes:

- Never let the flag touch the ground.
- The flag must never be

flown upside down, unless in situations of distress or emergency.

- Never carry the flag flat or wrap things in the flag.
- Never use the flag as clothing.
- Never store a flag in a place where it might get dirty.
- Never fasten or tie back a flag; always allow the flag to fly freely.
- Never draw or mark on a flag.
- If a flag is faded, torn or

See U.S. FLAG PS

## News Briefs

### 228th change of command

Col. Patrick Foley will assume command of the 228th Combat Support Hospital from Col. Purry Wacker Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Charles L. Kelly Army Heliport, Fort Sam Houston. For more information, call Maj. Martha Diaz at 221-4688.

### Wreath-laying ceremony

A wreath-laying ceremony will be held in memory of retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Leon L. Van Autreve and fallen comrades June 13 at 5:15 p.m. at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. For more information, call 221-3635.

### New museum exhibit

The Fort Sam Houston Museum presents a new exhibit, called "Top," June 13. This exhibit looks at the history of the first sergeant in the U.S. Army. Included in the exhibit are photos, illustrations and quotes of first sergeants from the American Revolution to the present and examples of first sergeant chevrons since the 1870s. For more information, call the Fort Sam Houston Museum at 221-1886. The Museum is open Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Harney Road closure

Harney Road will close between Forage and Garden Avenues starting June 19 to accommodate construction of the Medical Education and Training Campus Dining Facility. The METC is one of the primary projects of the San Antonio Base Realignment and Closure program. Along with the dining facility, the medical campus will include new dormitories and five new instructional facilities.

### Smoking Quitline

The San Antonio Military Medical Center Smoking Quitline will be available to active duty and reserve personnel starting this summer. The quitline is a telephone counseling service that will offer two different intervention formats to help individuals quit using tobacco. The program will include telephone counseling and nicotine replacement therapy at no cost to the participant. The quitline is a joint effort between the military, University of Tennessee, and the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute. For more information, call Karen LeRoy at 292-3504 or e-mail kleroy1@utmem.edu or Dr. Angela Tonozi at atonozi@utmem.edu.

### Preventive health screening

Women 40 and older need to have an annual mammogram. Regular mammograms save lives by finding breast cancer early. Brooke Army Medical Center has a new self-referral system for this valuable screening tool. Beneficiaries may self-refer to the Woman's Imaging Center if they meet the following criteria: they are not experiencing any symptoms of the breast and their primary care manager is within the Great Plains Regional Medical Command. To schedule a mammogram, call 916-3726 or 916-4229.

# ARNORTH sharpens civil support capabilities

By Sgt. Joshua Ford  
U.S. Army North Public Affairs Office

Terrorists were attacking Seattle, chemicals were being released into Washington State's atmosphere killing and wounding thousands of civilians, and to top it all off a category 3 hurricane threatened the Washington, D.C. area.

These scenarios were part of this year's National Level Exercise 2-08.

The eight-day exercise tested the techniques and procedures of how U.S. Army North would respond to a disaster within its area of operation.

Although first responders in an emergency situation are local and state authorities, when the governor requests federal assistance through Department of Defense channels, Army North kicks into gear.

As soon as the message came that the people in Seattle needed help, ARNORTH activated its main command post at Fort Sam Houston and deployed its Operational Command Post 1, Region X defense coordinating officer and a situational awareness team to Fort Lewis, Wash.

The OCP, comprising 60 servicemembers and civilians, commanded a 4,000-strong joint task force.

Joint Task Force-51 worked closely with the civil authorities in the Seattle area, also participating in the exercise to coordinate defense support to the crisis.

While ARNORTH's OCP was testing its ability to liaise with various agencies in Seattle, the MCP was certifying its capabilities as a Joint-Force Land Component Command.

"Army North was extremely successful during NLE 2-08 exercising command and control as a JFLCC and deploying one of its operational command posts," said Rand Rodriguez, deputy of operations for OCP 1.

ARNORTH prepared for NLE 2-08 with a series of smaller exercises earlier this year. In the end, all the hard work paid off. According to Rodriguez, the exercise not only helped refine ARNORTH's techniques, but also educated federal, state and local partners in what types of support the DoD can provide during a defense support of civil authorities mission.

ARNORTH is the Army component of U.S. Northern Command, the unified command responsible for homeland defense and civil support in the United States and its territories.

Marines from 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force's chemical biological incident response force carry a fake body down stairs during National Level Exercise 2-08 May 5 in Bellingham, Wash.



Photo by Pvt. David Nye

Lance Cpl. Brandon Stinson and Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Michael Walls, of the chemical biological incident response force, 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force, take simulated casualty Breanna Hernandez to a decontamination site in Whatcom County, Wash. Hernandez struggled against the servicemembers as part of the simulation.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Larry Simmons

Civilian role players for National Level Exercise 2-08 call for help after being exposed to chemical fallout May 5 outside of Bellingham, Wash.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Larry Simmons

Marines from 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force's chemical biological incident response force evacuate a wounded civilian during National Level Exercise 2-08 May 4.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Larry Simmons

# 'Stop, look, listen'

## Pedestrians, drivers should practice caution on post

By Elaine Wilson  
Fort Sam Houston Public Information  
Office

Most people can remember back to their childhood and their parents telling them to "stop, look and listen" before crossing a street.

The safety lessons of the past still hold true today; however, many pedestrians on Fort Sam Houston may need a refresher course in the basics.

"Under Texas law, pedestrians don't have the right of way until they are in the intersection," said Sgt. Tad Robertson, traffic division, Fort Sam Houston Traffic Police.

Many pedestrians, unaware of the danger, step into a crosswalk on post without looking to see what's coming.

"It takes time for a vehicle to stop. If there's a 2,300-pound vehicle vs. a 110-pound woman, the vehicle is not going to take the brunt of the force; it's going to be the person every time," Robertson said.

Further compounding the problem is the condition of post roads, construction areas and the experience level of drivers on post. It can

make for dangerous situations.

"It's the pedestrian and the vehicle driver's obligation to follow the law and ensure the safety of all on the roadways," Robertson said.

The pedestrians aren't the only ones at fault; drivers must yield to pedestrians once they are in the crosswalk. In 2007, Fort Sam Houston had 10 vehicle-pedestrian collisions. Investigations showed a 50-50 split – in half of the accidents, vehicle operators were at fault, and the other half were the pedestrian's fault. So far this year, four vehicle-to-pedestrian traffic crashes have occurred.

Robertson said many drivers and pedestrians bring their troublesome off-post driving habits on post. "Most people drive too fast for the roadway condition; other people suppose they can just walk across the street without being careful. We see it all the time. If we catch them, then we will cite them."

People also need to be aware that fines are higher in construction areas.

Additionally, drivers and pedestrians can take their case to a civil court, where the person at fault

could be looking at a heavy penalty for a careless mistake.

"Military members can face prosecution in the military system, federal system and be sued in civil court," Robertson said.

Robertson advises pedestrians to "make sure the vehicle is going to stop before stepping onto the road."

Additionally, when running or walking at night, make sure to wear reflective gear. In one of the accidents last year, a lady was running through a parking lot without reflective gear and got struck by a vehicle. The driver stopped, rendered aid and contacted the police. The pedestrian was found to be at fault.

Drivers also should be on the alert, particularly when traveling through parking lots or near crosswalks.

Fort Sam Houston averages 2.5 motor vehicle accidents a day, a number the police department would like to decrease.

"Our biggest problem at Fort Sam Houston at this time is vehicle-pedestrian accidents," Robertson said. "People just need to remember the basics and be cautious."



Courtesy photo

Patrol officer Tad Robertson uses a radar device to detect speeders on Wilson Road by the warehouses. Police are finding this area to be dangerous for pedestrians since drivers heading east on Wilson Road are having trouble braking in time for pedestrians in the cross walk by the warehouses. Many pedestrians must cross there to get to the new parking lot and temporary buildings across the street. Pedestrians and drivers should use caution in that area.

# San Antonio area Army, Air Force medical centers to merge

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Bates  
Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO — Medical care for military families in the San Antonio area is changing. Not in what it offers, but where, officials said.

Brooke Army and Wilford Hall Medical Centers are set to merge by 2011 as part of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations. Combined, the two medical centers will become the San Antonio Military Medical Center, or SAMMC.

Under this merger, all in-patient care at Wilford Hall will move to BAMC and some of BAMC's clinical services, such as dermatology, will move to WHMC.

The goal of this move is two-fold: it will save money and enable the med-

ical centers to provide the best care possible to their patients.

"Basically, this move is making things more efficient," said Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Thomas W. Travis, 59th Medical Wing commander.

In total, more than 200 clinics and support functions will move during the transition to SAMMC. Once the consolidation is complete, WHMC will become SAMMC-South and BAMC will become SAMMC-North.

"The names might be changing, but the quality care our patients are used to will not," Travis said.

To prepare for the new missions each medical center will be undertaking, BAMC is undergoing more than \$500 million in renovation and new construction and WHMC is undergoing



Photo by Master Sgt. Kimberly A. Yearyean-Siers

Lt. Col. (Dr.) Charles Reilly (right) instructs ophthalmology residents from Brooke Army Medical Center, Wilford Hall Medical Center and the University of Texas Health Science Center May 9 at the Joint Warfighter Refractive Surgery Center at WHMC at Lackland Air Force Base. Reilly is the consultant to the Air Force surgeon general for refractive surgery.

See MERGE P6

# DPTMS 'goes green' with mountain bikes

Story and photo by Olivia Mendoza  
Fort Sam Houston Public Information  
Office

The Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security has "gone green" by purchasing two mountain bikes for their office staff to use on a voluntary basis for travel on the installation.

DPTMS has taken a proactive approach with their "Go Green" program in order to help the environment, stay fit and healthy, and save the Army money.

"Riding is clearly beneficial for everyone to exercise and to get around on post and not have to deal with parking," said Michael Swenson, DPTMS, chief of training. "With the price of gas heading toward \$4 a gallon and no end in sight

you will see me pedaling to and from to as many meetings as possible."

Brad Barrett, emergency manager, and Carlton Bray, antiterrorism specialist, collaborated and came up with the idea to purchase a couple of mountain bikes for transportation on post.

Their thoughts were well intended as the bikes save money and reduce the use of the DPTMS government vehicle. With prices rising and everyone looking to save a penny, they took a survey from the staff and found that the majority supported the idea.

The bikes will particularly



Carlton Bray, antiterrorism specialist, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, prepares to ride one of the new "Go Green" mountain bikes Friday wearing a safety helmet to his afternoon meeting on Fort Sam Houston.

help people who would rather not drive their personal vehicle for official business when a GOV is not available.

"Bike usage will reduce fuel costs for government vehicles, result in less wear and tear,

and decrease employee mileage claim expenses for personal vehicles," Barrett said. "Plus, it is environmentally friendly because one 5-mile round trip by car produces approximately 15 pounds of air pollutants."

Swenson rode the bike for the first time to his meetings on post and said, "I was able to make it to the meetings without getting too hot or worrying about parking. It might have been a little warm to ride outside to training

area 10A/B, contracting and Department of Logistics, but I did it and it was a breath of fresh air."

Barrett and Bray's team effort made sense in making transportation fun, economi-

cal, and easier for the DPTMS staff to go to meetings, pick-up and deliver official mail, and increase their physical fitness.

The bikes have a lightweight courier bag on the rear rack which allows for easy transport of mail, laptops, books and miscellaneous items.

"Before anyone rides the bike they are briefed on the safe use of the bikes; they must wear safety helmets when riding, know how to use the bike gears and how to hand signal for traffic. Employees are also briefed that when riding on the road, the bike is considered to be a vehicle and they must obey all vehicular traffic laws just as well," said Barrett.

In closing, Swenson said, "I believe for the bike "Go Green" program to really take off and reach its potential, we should consider bike lanes on post to improve cycle safety and driver awareness."

# Army North commander signs union contract

Lt. Gen. Thomas R. Turner III, commanding general, U.S. Army North, and James D. Hewitt, president, local 28, Laborer's International Union of North America, signed the New Union Contract for U.S. Army North bargaining unit employees May 28 at Fort Sam Houston.

Drafting the contract was a seven-month process and required multiple personnel for negotiating teams from ARNORTH and LIUNA.

"Signing the contract is an important milestone. It signifies the establishment of a framework within which ARNORTH management and employees have amicably agreed to preserve their rights and carry out their responsibilities, all toward the goal of making ARNORTH a highly competent and disciplined workforce operating daily in a



Courtesy photo  
Lt. Gen. Thomas R. Turner, commanding general, US Army North, signs the new union contract with James D. Hewitt, president, Local 28, Laborer's International Union of North America, May 28 at ARNORTH headquarters.

world-class work environment," said Dr. Randy Vance, administrative and civil law attorney, ARNORTH.

"This is a unique command running multiple personnel systems," Turner said.

"Our civilians play a critical role in the defense of our nation and are often deployed. Their dedicated service is greatly appreciated."

(Source: ARNORTH Public Affairs)

## MERGE from P4

over \$50 million in renovation.

"Our biggest challenge is keeping both facilities running while these renovations are happening," the general said. "But we're committed to providing the best care possible to our patients. I'm confident we will."

Staff members at each hospital are also confident, they said.

"This move will help us tremendously," said Lt. Col. (Dr.) William Clouse, chief of vascular/endovascular surgery at WHMC. "We'll be receiving new facilities and capabilities. It's really an exciting time for medical professionals here."

Plus, the colonel added, the move allows Army and Air Force medical personnel to work together, something that's already happening in deployed environments.

"From a total-force perspective, this move is great. In Iraq and Afghanistan Air Force and Army work side-by-side in field hospitals," Clouse said. "Now we'll be doing that here in San Antonio and that

will help those people who deploy. They'll already be used to working with other services on a regular basis."

Still, the changes have brought up questions, many of those by military retirees.

"A lot of us are concerned about this move because it means having to drive farther," said retired Col. Harold Ponder, a resident at the Air Force Village retirement community. "Many of us live near WHMC to be close to where we receive our medical care."

Travis recognizes this concern, but is confident it will not pose a long-term problem.

For one, the only services moving are in-patient care and the emergency room. WHMC's clinical services will remain at the same location.

Many concerns have come from misinformation, such as rumors that WHMC is closing. To combat this problem, the general says communication is the answer.

Ponder agrees.

"For many of us, it's just the not knowing that makes us worry," the colonel said. "It's hard to accept change."

This is one change that is good, Travis said.

"SAMMC is a great thing for patients and military medical professionals in the San Antonio area," he said.

## TOWN HALL from P1

Defense's premier medical training base, the home of Army Installation Management Command Headquarters and the management of family support activities and community programs are coming to fruition.

And, it is not only about BRAC but there is another force behind Fort Sam Houston's transformation – the Army Modular Force Initiative.

The Army Modular Force Initiative involves a total redesign of operational Army units into a larger, more powerful, more flexible and more rapidly deployable force while moving the Army from a division-centric structure to one built around a brigade combat team.

In a dynamic, informative and sometimes entertaining PowerPoint presentation, Hartman walked the audience through the BRAC Transformation and the Joint Base initiative affecting Fort Sam Houston.

The Town Hall meeting was three-fold and coordinat-

ed to ease some of the concerns of the Fort Sam community. The meeting covered Fort Sam Houston's transformation under BRAC 2005, highlighted BRAC construction that is speckled throughout post and its affects on day-to-day living, and finally some solutions and suggestions on traffic and parking constraints once the construction begins.

With an estimated population growth of around 21,000 military and civilian personnel that includes an additional 4,100 students rotating through Fort Sam annually, the expansion will be a great economic boost to Fort Sam Houston and its surrounding communities.

However, there will be some growing pains and adjustments that will have to be made for day-to-day living on Fort Sam Houston.

As with any huge transformation, this one set to be completed by 2011 comes with a magnitude of construction. Currently there are four major construction zones sprinkled throughout the post with numerous others on a smaller scale going on.

Because of this maze of construction, the garrison commander, along with other senior leaders, has devised a well-thought-out strategic plan for Fort Sam Houston to make this situation as painless as possible.

Work zones referred to as construction bubbles will be erected around each construction site. These sites will be enclosed by fencing, which will physically separate the base populace from the construction and its workers. These sites will be fully enclosed and considered off-post locations.

In order to make this plan successful, the post has decided to reopen some entry gates and relocate others, such as the gate located on Binz-Engleman Road, which will be pushed back on post, closer to the Fire Station.

One of the major construction and massive renovation projects is the consolidation of the Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland Air Force Base and the Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston.

This union of the two mili-



Photo by Minnie Jones

Mike Waldrop (left), deputy to the garrison commander; Jackie Schlatter (center), Base Transformation Office; and Thomas Grippo, from the education center, review construction projects scheduled at Fort Sam Houston under the Base Realignment and Closure at the BRAC Town Hall meeting May 28 at the Army Community Service center.

tary hospitals will be known as the San Antonio Military Medical Center, or SAMMC. Wilford Hall will become SAMMC-South and will be a large ambulatory care center designed to meet the outpatient medical needs of Lackland AFB and the surrounding communities.

The BAMC, SAMMC-North, will undergo a 250,000-square-foot renovation that

also includes the construction of a 5,000-car parking garage. This renovation will be one of the biggest growing pains coming out of the BRAC initiative for Fort Sam Houston, which will include a west and east addition, an emergency tower and a central energy plant.

Under the proposal,

See TOWN HALL P8

**TOWN HALL from P7**

SAMMC-North will become the inpatient tertiary care center providing all inpatient care as well as all trauma and emergency medical care. While under renovation, BAMC will remain open and caring for patients as usual. Then the question becomes, while the facility is being renovated, where do close to 5,000 BAMC employees park their cars?

In the plan, there have been several sites placed throughout Fort Sam Houston proper for designated parking lots. This will require BAMC employees to be shuttled back and forth from the medical center. This maneuvering will probably be one of the biggest hurdles affecting the day-to-day lives of post personnel, because hospital employees will not be allowed to park at BAMC.

Although it is estimated that approximately 10,000 Family members will be coming to Fort Sam Houston, there are no plans to build additional Family quarters on post. Post officials are working with the City of San Antonio and the San Antonio Board of Education to work out some of the growth issues that will affect the surrounding communities.

Also slated under BRAC is a new post exchange, a renovated commissary, a multi-screen movie theater, a new athletic center and a shopping area set in an atmosphere that will be likened to The Shops at La Cantera. There is also a plan to build a Marriot Staybridge Suites hotel, an extended-stay hotel that will operate a 695-room hotel on Fort Sam.

In addition, Camp Bullis, located off Loop 1604, is also part of the Fort Sam Houston BRAC transformation and will have a field medic-training center constructed to support the Medical Education and Training Center students. Also, a new fire station is slated for BAMC.

Because of all of the construction, Fort Sam Houston expects a parking shortage, so officials are exploring the option of VIA service in the future.

Last item on the agenda at the meeting was speaker Blake Berlin from VIA Metropolitan



Photo by Minnie Jones

Col. Wendy Martinson, garrison commander, Fort Sam Houston, turns the floor over to Mike Hartman, base transformation officer, at the Base Realignment and Closure Town Hall meeting May 28 at the Army Community Service center.

Transit. During his presentation he gave details about the VIA Vanpool program and encouraged people to take advantage of the program offered by VIA that allows commuters to share their commute with co-workers.

Martinson opened up the floor for questions. She concluded the meeting by thanking the audience for taking an interest in what is going on at the installation. "It can be overwhelming to think of all of things that are going on, but you are part of something that is really important for Fort Sam Houston," she said.

Martinson commented that the Town Hall meeting went well, "We hold these meetings to make people more informed. People who are more informed have a better tolerance and a better understanding of what's going on around them," said Martinson.

For more information regarding the BRAC transition, visit the Fort Sam Houston Base Transformation Office Web site at [www.samhouston.army.mil/bto/default.asp](http://www.samhouston.army.mil/bto/default.asp).

**U.S. FLAG from P2**

soiled, it must be respectfully retired.

Public Law 829, enacted Dec. 22, 1942, by the 77th U.S. Congress, outlines the proper procedures to follow when disposing of worn or tattered flags.

"The flag should be retired in a dignified and respectful manner, preferably by burning and then by burning the ashes afterwards," Rolfe said.

For more information of flag etiquette, visit the Veterans of Foreign Wars Web site at <http://www.vfw.org> or visit a local VFW for a brochure and general information.

## Is your flag ... old, faded or worn out?

Eric Rolfe, from Fort Sam Houston Boy Scout Troop 23, will provide an opportunity for the post community to properly and respectfully retire their unserviceable – old, worn or faded – U.S. flags as part of an Eagle Scout Service Project.

Rolfe will collect unserviceable flags from residential communities on post Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. People who live off post are welcome to bring their unserviceable flags to a drop-off location in front of the Fort Sam Houston Commissary Saturday from 12 to 4 p.m.

**PEB from P1****The process begins**

The process starts with stacks of paperwork about the Soldier's medical condition and duty performance, which represent years of service and considerable work by the Soldier, his chain of command and the medical staff providing treatment.

Prior to the PEB, Soldiers must work with their PEB liaison officer to gather extensive documentation regarding their case, to include the results from a Medical Evaluation Board. The MEB, normally conducted at a military treatment facility, uses tests, exams and medical records to make a recommendation to the PEB about whether or not the Soldier meets medical retention standards.

In turn, PEB members must weed through a massive amount of information, to include MEB results, medical files, evaluations, counseling forms, commander's statement and results from physical fitness tests. Their goal is to reach a decision about whether or not a Soldier can continue service.

Soldiers may be considered fit or unfit based on several criteria, the most critical being performance and how the Soldier's medical condition impacts their performance.

"For performance, we look at whether or not a Soldier can meet Army standards in their primary military occupational specialty," Lovett said. "As for medical condition, we have to decide if the condition precludes a Soldier from reasonably performing the duties of his or her office, grade, rank or rating in his or her unit, at the present time."

Deployability is a factor considered in the equation, but is not used as a sole basis for an unfit determination.



Photo by Elaine Wilson

Terrie Wurzbacher, medical officer for the Physical Evaluation Board, reviews a Soldier's file Friday.

**Reaching a decision**

After review, a three-person board, comprising a president, medical member and personnel management officer, votes on each case, and the majority decision rules.

"We are making a determination if the Soldier can continue to do his or her job," Lovett said. "If a Soldier is considered unfit, we make a recommendation whether or not to separate or retire the Soldier."

If a Soldier is considered unfit, the PEB will rec-

ommend one of the following options: separate with severance pay, separate without benefits, placement on the Temporary Disability Retirement List or granted Permanent Disability Retirement. The TDRL is when Soldiers receive health benefits and some of their base pay, but are subject to periodic examinations to determine the long-term outcome. PDR is when a Soldier is medically retired, which can follow 20 years of service or a 30 percent or higher rating, provided the rated condition is considered stable.

So far, in fiscal 2008, only 3 percent of Soldiers have been separated without benefits; 47 percent of Soldiers have been separated with severance pay; and 14 percent permanently retired, Lovett said.

**Disability ratings**

The board also decides if a disability rating will be assigned as compensation for the loss of a military career. If a rating is given for an unfit condition, it is determined by criteria established by the Army and Department of Veterans Affairs Schedule for Rating Disabilities and it will range from 0 to 100 percent in increments of 10.

Disability ratings are one topic that stirs up the rumor mill since the Army and VA often differ in their ratings, although they use the same rating schedule, Lovett said.

The reason, Lovett said, is tied to the injury or health condition and whether it is unfitting or not. For instance, "If someone breaks a leg in service but can continue to do their job, the VA may give a rating since it was a service-connected injury. But the Army may not because we only rate conditions that prematurely end a Soldier's career."

See PEB P10

## New PEB building



Courtesy rendering

The Physical Evaluation Board, currently located on Stanley Road, is slated to receive a new facility (pictured above) in the spring. The new building, located next to the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center, will be one story and about 6,400 square feet. The 1.8 million contract was awarded to Texas-based Guyco, Inc., in February. "Our employees deserve a first-class facility to work in," said Col. Troy Lovett, president, Physical Evaluation Board. "For Soldiers leaving service, this will be the last organization they will have contact with. They also deserve to have a first-class organization and the new facility will offer that."

**News Leader survey online**

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

**PEB from P9**

Lovett emphasized that that each case is unique and determined based on the specific factors and situation unique to each individual Soldier.

**Process of appeal**

Up to this point, the process is conducted informally, by paper only. However, once informed of the initial decision and rating, the Soldier can request a formal board to plead his case in front of the decision-makers. The Soldier is afforded access to legal counsel to accompany the Soldier to the formal board. They are assisted by their PEBLO or case manager throughout the process.

"We allow the Soldier to provide material evidence, documentation and statements from chain of command to substantiate their case," Lovett said.

Soldiers can appeal their formal board decision as well by non-concurring with the decision.

"Soldiers have multiple

opportunities to voice their concerns with those who can do something about it," he said. "We work hard at doing the right thing."

The PEB then sends up their recommendation to the Physical Disability Agency, which has the authority to approve recommendations, return the Soldier's case to the PEB for reconsideration or issue revised findings. The PDA also serves as the appellate authority when a Soldier disagrees with his PEB recommendations.

From start to finish, the PEB here is required to complete their process, to include appeals, within 30 days from receipt and logging of the case. On average, the Texas PEB completes its work in about 20 days, Lovett said.

**Heavy workload**

Lovett said he hopes to cut the time back even further to better service Soldiers and their Families. But with 25 to 30 cases submitted a day, he and his staff have their work cut out for them.

The cases are submitted from throughout the Fort Sam Houston PEB's area of responsibility, which encompasses nine states stretching from the western border of Texas to the southernmost tip of Florida.

Out of the three Army PEBs worldwide, the Fort Sam Houston office handles about 40 percent of the total cases submitted, averaging between 5,000 and 6,000 cases a year. For fiscal 2008, they are currently on pace to receive about 5,700 cases.

A heavy workload, but Lovett said each is given equal attention. "We understand what a Soldier and their Family are going through. A PEB is a significant and potentially life-altering event."

The staff bends over backward for Soldiers and their Families, Lovett said. "We track down information for them and do whatever it takes to put the Soldier up front. The bottom line is that we're here to help Soldiers move on, whether it's on to civilian lives or back to the fighting force."

# Crime Watch

## Be alert on roadways; lock up gas tanks

School's out for summer! Use extra caution when driving as children will be riding bicycles and playing in or near streets.

While at the community centers and pools make sure valuables, including car and house keys, are secured.

Major changes are happening on the installation. Construction areas are literally popping up overnight. All residents, employees and visitors to Fort Sam Houston are asked to be patient as traffic flows are altered.

Drivers should watch their speed, stop at all stop signs, even temporary ones, and obey police officers directing traffic. As the construction and congestion around Garden Road increases, make sure not to block the driveway exit at the Fire Station while waiting at the traffic light. Traffic cones and barricades are there for a reason - moving them can result in a fine of up to \$500.

The top five traffic offenses have been speeding, failing to stop at a posted stop sign or traffic light, no insurance, driving with a suspended driver's license and not wearing seatbelts. People with unpaid traffic tickets might check with the state that issued their driver's license to make sure their license is still valid. If stopped and their driver's license is suspended, drivers will get a free trip to the Police Station, a \$100 ticket, their car possibly towed, and driving privileges on the installation revoked for five years.

As everyone deals with high prices at the gas pumps, be

aware that thieves could steal from gas tanks. To help deter this type of theft, drivers should park their vehicle in the garage and lock the garage door. People can also purchase locking gas caps for their vehicle from an auto parts store or major discount stores. This type of crime has not been reported on the installation, but as gas prices increase, it could happen.

Also during the last two weeks, the police have responded to the following crimes:

**Thefts**

One individual was apprehended for shoplifting at the Main Exchange, and more than \$100 worth of sunglasses were recovered. There were 12 reported larcenies in several barracks, the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center, the Army Travel Camp, and one larceny from a quarters on William Hardee.

**Drugs, alcohol**

Eight Soldiers were apprehended for drug use or possession in the last two weeks. The drugs include cocaine and marijuana. Police also apprehended three civilians and two Soldiers for driving while intoxicated.

**Other incidents**

Police found eight government buildings unsecured and received eight reports of assaults in troop barracks, the guest house, Brooke Army Medical Center, Cole High School, Clothing Sales and the Marvin R. Wood housing area.

(Source: Provost Marshal Office)



Cpl. Nathan Macon, 440th Blood Support Detachment from Fort Sam Houston, receives the Overall Soldier Award for the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), Truck Rodeo May 21 from Brig. Gen. Paul L. Wentz, commanding general, 13th ESC, at Fort Hood, Texas. Macon drove from Fort Sam Houston to compete in the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle division of the three-day event.

## Fort Sam Soldier drives to top honors

Story and photo by Sgt. Matthew Cooley  
Special to the News Leader

**FORT HOOD, Texas** — A Fort Sam Houston Soldier took top honors in a three-day Truck Rodeo here that ended May 21.

Cpl. Nathan Macon, a medical laboratory specialist, 440th Blood Support Detachment, 61st Multifunction Medical Battalion, 1st Medical Brigade, came from Fort Sam Houston to attain the Overall Soldier Award, the highest individual achievement in the competition. The Overall Soldier Award was determined by the overall score for each portion of the competition.

Macon was also the 1st place winner in the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle competition.

"It's great! I was really surprised. I wasn't expecting a trophy; I wasn't expecting to win," Macon said.

The Truck Rodeo, sponsored by the 180th Transportation Battalion, 15th Sustainment Brigade, 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), tested Soldiers' driving skills, vehi-

cle safety upkeep and overall vehicle knowledge at the Fort Hood Deployment Ready Reaction Field.

Soldiers competed in either the HMMWV division or the Light Medium Tactical Vehicle division.

The divisions were broke into three portions: safety, written test and driving skills.

The safety portion was an inspection to ensure that the vehicle met all required safety standards.

The written test was 30 questions long and designed to test contestants' driving knowledge.

The third and most action-packed portion of the competition was the driving skills portion, which included parallel parking, a serpentine driving course, a tapered dimension clearance event, and an event requiring the driver to break and stop as close as possible to a barrier at 20 mph.

Winners were presented medals by Brig. Gen. Paul L. Wentz, commanding general, 13th ESC. Wentz presented the Overall Soldier and unit winners with trophies.



### Intramural Flag Football Standings

May 29

Team	W	L
1st DENTAC	7	0
2nd 418th Med. Log.	5	2
3rd 470th MI	1	5
4th 14th MI Bn.	1	5
5th BAMC	0	2

### Intramural Spring Softball Standings

May 29

Team	W	L
1st 264th Med. Bn.	9	2
2nd 4th Recon.	8	3

3rd ARNORTH	7	4
4th USARSO	7	4
5th USAG	5	7
6th USAMITC	2	8
7th Silver Sluggers	0	10

### Intramural Golf Standings

May 28 - final standings

Place	Team	Points
<b>Hogan Division</b>		
1st	USAISR	185
2nd	MEDCOM #1	183
3rd	Garrison	181
4th	Dawg Pound #1	164
5th	DCDD	160
6th	DCMT #1	148.5
7th	ARNORTH	139
8th	BAMC #1	124
9th	DMRTI	61
<b>Daly Division</b>		
1st	BAMC #2	176

2nd 264th Med. Bn.	169.5
3rd GPRMC	169
4th Dawg Pound #2	169
5th MEDCOM #2	164
6th MWR	161
7th AMEDDC&S	141
8th DCMT #2	109.5
9th DCMT #3	0

### Cole Middle School basketball camp

A Cole girl's basketball camp for students in sixth through eighth grade will be held June 9 to 12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the new Cole High School gym. The registration fee will be \$60 per student; fees are non-refundable. Students will receive registration confirmation by mail. For more information or to register, call Tara Bates at 368-8729 or e-mail Coach Guerrero at [cguerrer@fshisd.net](mailto:cguerrer@fshisd.net).

# Vanpooling, a cost-saving alternative to driving

By Lori Newman  
Special to the News Leader



Register online at [www.rivercitiesrideshare.com](http://www.rivercitiesrideshare.com) or call 362-2555.

With gas prices on the rise a growing number of people are looking at other transportation options. Drivers at Fort Sam Houston may find vanpooling an attractive alternative.

Vanpooling, a program offered through VIA Metropolitan Transit, saves people money on parking and gas, and reduces the wear and tear on their own vehicles.

The first step is to register as a VIA vanpool candidate. People can register online at <http://www.rivercitiesrideshare.com> or by calling 362-2555. Once registered, the applicant's information will be matched with others in the VIA database.

A vanpool requires at least six people to share the ride to work while splitting the cost of a van and fuel. Vans are provided at a low cost through an agreement between VIA and its vanpool provider, Enterprise Rent-A-Car. A formal monthly rental agreement will be made between Enterprise and the primary vanpool driver.

A primary driver and two backup drivers share driving duties. All drivers will have their driving records verified. Drivers must be at least 25 years old and have a standard Class C driver's license. If a 15-passenger van is used, additional training and orientation are required.

The primary driver will maintain possession of the van, be responsible for maintaining and submitting accurate daily log sheets, collecting fares from the other riders and submitting the total monthly cost to Enterprise. In

exchange, the primary driver will ride for free.

The monthly cost per rider can range from about \$50 to \$150. The monthly payment includes the cost of a late-model van, a full-service maintenance program, 24-hour roadside assistance, and insurance. The only additional expense is fuel.

VIA provides a monthly subsidy of \$20 per rider, according to a VIA press release. The subsidy is discounted from the monthly fee.

Additionally, for federal employees, including military, the Federal Transit Benefit is available and will pay up to \$115 per month per person.

If a person has an emergency and cannot ride the vanpool the CARE Program, a service provided by VIA and the Alamo Area Council of Governments, offers a guaranteed taxi ride home. People must register for the CARE program and pay a one-time \$5 fee. More details and registration information will be provided when joining a vanpool or by contacting AACOG at 227-7665 or <http://www.aacog.com>.

For more information, call the U.S. Army Garrison, Plans Analysis and Integration Office Liaison, Ray Mendoza at 221-2969, Blake Berlin, VIA Vanpool Representative at 362-2041 or visit the VIA Web site at [www.viainfo.net](http://www.viainfo.net).

# Garrison explores options to ease commute to work

## Post community invited to take VIA transit survey

As gas prices continue to soar and construction detours and parking limitations continue unabated, Fort Sam Houston drivers are feeling the impact on their wallets and their patience. Fort Sam Houston U.S. Army Garrison, in partnership with VIA Metropolitan Transit and the City of San Antonio, are working together to find possible alternatives to take the hassle out of daily commutes to work.

The garrison is offering Fort Sam Houston drivers the opportunity to consider alternative means of transportation through the launching of a VIA-sponsored transit survey. The surveys may be taken by all Fort Sam Houston residents, employees, Soldiers and their Family members. The survey canvasses the participant's desires pertaining to possible bus, shuttle, bicycle, and vanpooling initiatives that could significantly relieve frustration on the San Antonio freeways and on the installation roadways and parking lots.

The survey will be available until Wednesday. People can fill out a hard copy at all Fort Sam Houston gas stations, Main Post Exchange, the Clothing Sales Store and at the front desk at Army Community Service, on Stanley Road. Mail responses to:

**Headquarters, U.S. Army Garrison  
Plans, Analysis, and Integration Office  
ATTN: Ray Mendoza  
1206 Stanley Road, Bldg 122 (Stop 1)  
Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-5001**

People can also fill out a survey online at <http://www.samhouston.army.mil/paio/index.htm> or on the Intranet at <https://fsh-intranet.amedd.army.mil/>. If taking the survey online, e-mail responses to [ray.mendoza@us.army.mil](mailto:ray.mendoza@us.army.mil).

For more information, call Ray Mendoza at 221-2969 or e-mail [ray.mendoza@us.army.mil](mailto:ray.mendoza@us.army.mil).

### VIA Survey

Fort Sam Houston expects a parking shortage and has expressed interest in VIA service in the future. Would you please help us make a good decision by answering these questions?

Please check the answers which fit you best.

- Are you:
  - Military, living off post
  - Military, living on post
  - Civilian
- If you live on post, would you use the bus to travel to downtown San Antonio?  Yes  No
- What is your unit/organization of assignment? \_\_\_\_\_
- What building do you start your work or duty day at? \_\_\_\_\_
- What days do you work at Fort Sam Houston? Please check all that apply:
  - Monday-Friday
  - Saturday
  - Sunday
- What time do you report for duty/work?
  - Before 0600 (please fill in time: \_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_)
  - 0700-0800
  - 0600-0700
  - After 0800 (please fill in time: \_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_)
- What time do you depart for home?
  - Before 1600 (please fill in time: \_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_)
  - 1630-1730
  - 1600-1630
  - After 1730 (please fill in time: \_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_)
- How do you usually travel to and from your work at Fort Sam Houston? Please check one answer.
  - Walk
  - Drive your car
  - Ride in someone else's car, or car pool
  - Ride the bus and walk onto post
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- If you have ridden the bus to Fort Sam Houston in the past, why did you stop riding? \_\_\_\_\_
- Do you need your car during the work day?
  - Yes
  - No
 If yes, where do you drive to during the work day? \_\_\_\_\_
- If a post shuttle were available would you use that instead?  Yes  No
- What is your home zip code? \_\_\_\_\_
- If bus service was convenient to your home and to the gate at Fort Sam Houston, and your trip required a transfer to the post's internal shuttle, how likely would you be to ride the bus to Fort Sam Houston at least half the time?

- Very likely
  - Somewhat likely
  - Not very likely
  - Would not ride
  - Don't know
- If there were a convenient Park and Ride location near you, and a dedicated "express bus" or Fort Sam Houston gate to home bus from there, how likely would you be to ride the bus to the gate at Fort Sam Houston at least half the time?
    - Very likely
    - Somewhat likely
    - Not very likely
    - Would not ride
    - Don't know
  - What would be the most convenient location for your bus to arrive at Fort Sam Houston? Mark one.
    - BAMC
    - Walters Access Control Point
    - Binz-Ingleman Access Control Point
    - Harry Wurzbach Access Control Point
    - New Braunfels and E. Grayson
  - Considering where you live, where would be a good location for a Park and Ride, where you could park and catch the bus to Fort Sam Houston? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Why would you not take the bus to Fort Sam Houston? \_\_\_\_\_

What do you think of these four alternative ways to get to work? Please answer questions 17 through 21 below.

- How acceptable to you would car pooling be, as a way of getting to work? In a car pool you would take turns driving with one to three others.
  - I car pool now
  - I would certainly do it now if I had someone to go with
  - I might do it if \_\_\_\_\_
  - I would never do it because \_\_\_\_\_
  - I am not sure
- How acceptable to you would van pooling be as a way of getting to work, if a government voucher would pay for the van? In a van pool you would pay about \$15-20 a month for gas to ride to work with others from your part of town. One member of the van pool would drive.
  - I car pool now
  - I would certainly do it now if I had someone to go with
  - I might do it if \_\_\_\_\_
  - I would never do it because \_\_\_\_\_
  - I am not sure
- How acceptable to you would riding the bus be, as a way of getting to work if the government were to pay the cost of a monthly bus pass?
  - I take the bus to work now
  - I would certainly do it now if the bus was more convenient or improved
  - I might do it if \_\_\_\_\_
  - I would never do it because \_\_\_\_\_

- I am not sure
- How acceptable to you would driving to a remote parking lot be, as a way of getting to work? You would drive to a parking lot about three miles from Fort Sam Houston, and a shuttle bus would take you to the installation gate.
    - I would certainly do it
    - I might do it if \_\_\_\_\_
    - I would never do it because \_\_\_\_\_
    - I am not sure
  - Which of those four choices would you prefer if you could not drive directly to work? Please mark your first choice, second choice, and third choice, marking one box in each column below.
 

	First choice	Second choice	Third choice
Riding the bus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A car pool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A van pool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drive to a remote parking lot	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Supplemental Bicycle Questions
- Do you own a bicycle?  Yes  No
  - How often do you ride a bicycle for each of the following purposes?
 

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Usually
Recreational/fitness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commute to work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commute to school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shopping/errands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
  - How many miles is your typical ride? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What facilities do you prefer to ride your bicycle?
    - Separate bike paths or trails
    - Sidewalks
    - Marked bicycle lanes
    - On roads with cars
  - How do each of the following conditions affect your choice for riding a bicycle more often?
 

	No affect	Some	Very much	Extremely
Lack of bicycle facilities (trails, lanes, routes)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Afraid of motor vehicles/drivers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Destinations too far/takes too long	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Difficult intersections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Weather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of bicycle parking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of shower/locker facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

 Other (provide example): \_\_\_\_\_

# Keep it clean

## Students learn to keep Soldiers safe, disease-free

By Elaine Wilson  
Fort Sam Houston Public Information Office

While most of the health-care world is geared toward treating disease and illness, one Army medical specialty is solely in the business of prevention.

Preventive medicine specialists work to ensure their comrades, whether stateside or downrange, remain injury and disease-free.

Soldiers learn their trade at the Army Medical Department Center and School here during a 15-week Preventive Medicine Specialist Course that covers everything from giant stinging scorpions in the desert to syrupy soda dispensers at the dining facility.

"It's a very challenging and comprehensive course," said Sgt. 1st Class Roye Patton, course class adviser.

The course work includes nine phases covering every aspect of sanitation and safety for Soldiers in the field and at home.

The phases include Community Health Practices; Water Quality; Food Service Sanitation; Industrial Hygiene; Medical Zoology; Deployment Environmental Surveillance Programs; Stability and Support Operations; Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear; and a culminating Field Training Exercise, where they put their knowledge to the test in the field.

The purpose of the varied training is to

enable Soldiers to walk away with the knowledge needed to inspect and evaluate the sanitation of living quarters, food service facilities, water supply systems, industrial operations and other facilities both in fixed and deployed settings.

They also learn to evaluate adequacy of wastewater and solid waste disposal operations; and help collect data for communicable disease investigations and entomological surveys.

"The majority of the instructors here have come from a deployment, whether from Afghanistan or Iraq, so the students benefit from real-world experiences," Patton said.

The course includes a variety of field trip including dining facilities, wastewater treatment plants, barber and beauty shops, and regulated medical waste storage facilities. Students evaluate noise hazards using sound level meters and vacuum cleaners as their noise-making device. The also visit installation pools where they perform onsite pH and chlorine tests of the water ensuring it meets regulation requirements.

One of the phases not for the squeamish or weak-stomached is the five-week medical zoology phase. During this phase, students are hands-on with everything from tiny blood-sucking Lone Star ticks to oversized Giant Cape cockroaches. They examine the creepy-crawlers so they can understand the diseases and sanitary threats they pose to Soldiers.

"We teach Soldiers about the diseases that insects like mosquitoes, ticks and fleas carry so they can prevent other Soldiers from getting diseases in the field," said Col. Mustapha Debboun, chief, Medical Zoology Branch. "Our



Photo by Olivia Mendoza  
Pvt. Deandra Turner, from Augusta, Ga., examines a book on insects during the Medical Zoology phase of the Preventive Medicine Specialist Course.

goal is to protect Soldiers from disease and non-battle injury."

One disease posing a particularly significant threat to Soldiers downrange is leishmaniasis, which is a disfiguring disease transmitted by a sand fly, he said. The disease can cause lesions and enlargement of the spleen.

Preventive medicine specialists can play a significant role in preventing a multitude of diseases by educating Soldiers about personal protective measures and looking for the types of situations that attract certain bugs, such as puddles of stagnant water which attract malaria-bearing mosquitoes.

"I'm enjoying this phase," said student Pvt. Deandra Turner, from Augusta, Ga. "I wanted to be in the medical field and this was interesting to me."

After this five-week phase, Soldiers walk away with a Department of Defense Pest Management Certification.

Additionally, graduates of the course have a variety of options for future careers, to include occupational safety and health, environmental health, and the civilian public health career field, Patton said.

In the meantime, course graduates are able to put their learning into practice in the field, whether at a garrison or overseas.

"Some Soldiers will deploy within six months of graduating from the course," Patton said. "But they're prepared."



Spc. Kayla Hammonds checks the temperature of a milk dispenser at a dining facility on Fort Sam Houston.

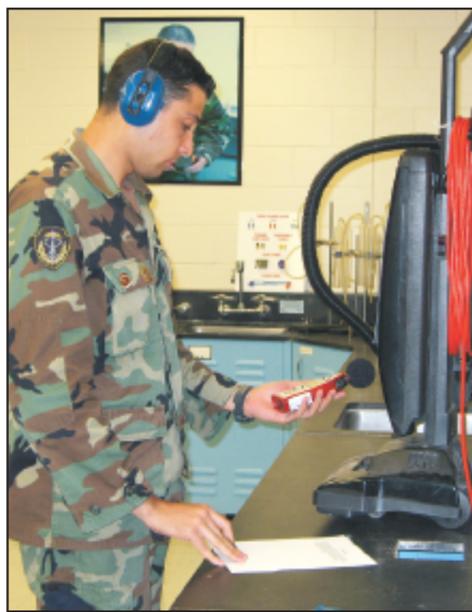
Photos by Staff Sgt. Jaime Subia



Pvt. Sharlyn Ruiz (left) and Pfc. Latoya Rosario calibrate an air-sampling pump so they can analyze air for contaminants.



Pfc. Carlos Warfield tests drinking water for chlorine residuals.



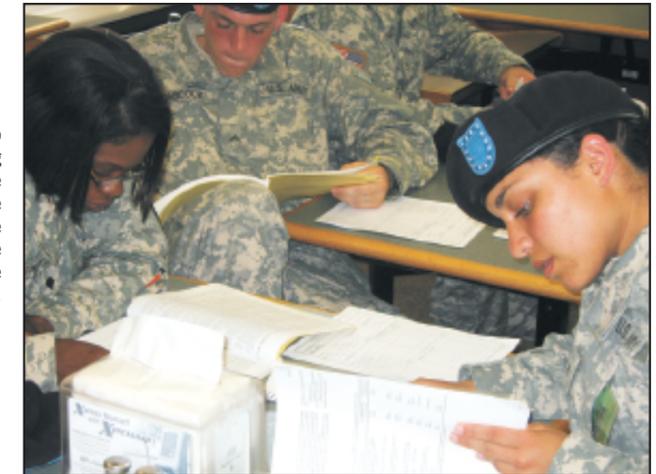
Master Sgt. Al Danaf, a foreign student from Lebanon, performs a noise survey on a vacuum. Part of a preventive medicine specialist's job is to test the volume of sounds to ensure the noise does not pose a hazard to people.



Photo by Olivia Mendoza  
Col. Mustapha Debboun, chief, Medical Zoology Branch, explains the feeding and living habits of a cockroach. By learning about the habits of insects and reptiles, students will be better able to identify threats in the field and teach Soldiers how to protect themselves from a nasty bite or sting.



Pfc. Guy MBemba and Pvt. Abel Arriaga look for contaminants in pool water.



Students catch up on their reading during the Industrial Hygiene phase of the Preventive Medicine Specialist Course.



Pfc. Brendon Lynch inspects spigots on a soda dispenser to ensure they were properly sanitized at a Fort Sam Houston dining facility. If not washed daily, the syrup build-up can attract bugs and create a sanitation hazard for diners.



## Recreation and Leisure

### Youth horsemanship camp

Registration for the 2008 Summer Youth Horsemanship Camp is under way. There are eight, five-day sessions to choose from; each session is Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The first session begins Monday and the last session begins Aug. 4. All youth ages 7 to 17 will learn proper riding form and how to care for a horse. The cost is \$195 per session and there is a \$25 non-refundable fee required to register for class. For more information, call the Equestrian Center at 224-7207.

### Adult CPR certification

Come celebrate National CPR Awareness Week with Fort Sam Houston, the MWR Outdoor Equipment Center and the American Red Cross. Adult CPR Certification will be held Saturday at the Outdoor Equipment Center, Building 1111, Forage Avenue. There are two sessions to choose from: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 5 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person. The class is open to the public. For more information or to register, call 221-5554 or 221-5224.

### Summer Reading Club

SeaWorld San Antonio has teamed up with the Keith A. Campbell Memorial Library for the library's Summer Reading Club. Join the summer reading club between Sunday and Aug. 3 for the chance to win prizes. Read for an hour and earn one prize; the more you read the more prizes you earn. The SeaWorld prize drawing will be held Aug. 3. For more information, call 221-4702 or 221-4387 or visit the Fort Sam Houston MWR Web site at [www.fort-samhoustonmwr.com](http://www.fort-samhoustonmwr.com).

### Red Cross swimming lessons

Learn to swim this summer at the Fort Sam Houston Aquatic Center. MWR is offering Red Cross swimming lessons throughout the summer to youth under 16 years old. For \$40, each child will be able to participate in an eight-day session that includes swimming lessons, class picture, swim-lesson T-shirt and a certificate of completion. Lessons are conducted in two-week sessions held Monday through Friday from 9 to 9:45 a.m. and 10 to 10:45 a.m. The first session of classes begins June 9; the last session begins Aug. 4. Registration is from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Aquatic Center, Building 3300. For more information, call 221-1234 or 221-4887.

### 'Viva Fort Sam!'

The Hacienda Recreation Center and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers present "Viva Fort Sam," a musical variety show, June 12 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Hacienda Recreation Center, Building 1462 on Garden Avenue. "Viva Fort Sam" is the Hacienda's entry in the 2008 U.S. Army Festival of the Performing Arts.

For more information, call 224-7250.

### Father's Day Golf Tournament

The Fort Sam Houston Golf Course Father's Day Tournament is scheduled for June 15 on the Salado Course. Shotgun start time is 1 p.m. Come out with dad and compete for a variety of prizes. This two-person scramble is \$35 for members and \$50 for non-members; the fee covers cart rental, green fees, awards and the banquet after the tournament. For more information, call 222-9386.

### Summer junior golf camp

Summer junior golf camp registration is being held for the June 16 to 20 session. The session is held Monday through Friday from 8 to 10 a.m. The camp will instruct students on putting, chipping, etiquette, safety, irons, driver and fairway woods, and rules. The session is open to youth ages 7 to 16. The cost is \$70. Register early; space is limited. For more information, call James Benites at 355-5429.

### Gun hunter education class

A two-day Gun Hunter Education Class will be held June 14 and 15 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Camp Bullis Outdoor Recreation Center. The \$15 registration fee is payable on the first day of class. Reservations are required; space is limited. The class is mandatory for rifle hunters who want to hunt on Camp Bullis. Firearms cannot be brought onto Camp Bullis. For more information or to register, call 295-7577 or 295-7529.

### 11th Annual City Military Championship

This two-day event takes place June 21 and 22 at the Fort Sam

Houston Golf Course. Check in at 7 a.m. for the 8 a.m. shotgun start time. Registration fee is \$40 for members and \$80 for non-members; the cost of registration includes green fees, awards and a social after play, June 22. This championship is a 36-hole stroke play. Flights available include Championship; Open; Ladies; Senior, ages 50 and above; Super Senior, ages 60 and above; and Juniors, under 18 years old. For more information, call 222-9386.

### San Antonio Missions Baseball Military Appreciation Night

Fort Sam Houston Soldiers and Families are invited to attend the San Antonio Missions Baseball Military Family Appreciation Night June 16 at Wolff Stadium. The game begins at 7:05 p.m. Several pre-game activities will be available for the military and general public. This game is one of three military appreciation nights sponsored by the Missions in honor of the military. Ticket vouchers can be picked up beginning June 9 at the Fort Sam Houston Ticket Office located in the Sam Houston Club with a limit of four vouchers per person. The vouchers may be converted to free general admission tickets at Wolff Stadium or used to upgrade the seats for a small additional charge. For more information, call 221-2606 or 221-9904.

### 'An American Girl' contest

The Keith A. Campbell Memorial Library will hold "Kit Kittredge: An American Girl" contest through June 29. Anyone between ages 6 and 16 and an authorized patron of MWR facilities can register during each visit to the library with a limit of once per day. The winner of the drawing will be awarded a "Kit Kittredge: An American Girl" book set. While at the library, visit the computer room and log onto [www.armymwr.com](http://www.armymwr.com) to enter the online contest and drawing to win the grand prize, which includes a \$1,000 shopping spree at an American Girl store nearest to the winner's location. For more information, call 221-4702 or visit [www.fort-samhoustonmwr.com](http://www.fort-samhoustonmwr.com).

### Aquatic Center open

The Aquatic Center is open daily from 12 to 8 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 221-4887 or 221-1234.

## Dining and Entertainment

### Hebrew National Fantastic Promotion

Fort Sam Houston Morale, Welfare and Recreation and Hebrew National are offering the Fan-tastic Summer promotion at Mulligan's at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Course and the Strike Zone at the Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center. Buy six Hebrew National hot dogs and get one free during the Fan-tastic Summer promotion now through July 31. Submit a completed frequency card at Mulligan's or Strike Zone for the Army-wide sweepstakes drawing to win a trip to watch the New York Yankees play in one of the last games in the old Yankees stadium. The trip includes four tickets behind home plate, airfare, lodging and spending cash. Other great prizes include his and her DreamSeat recliners, a 36-inch flat screen television, digital sports camcorder with 10x zoom, Xbox 360 with ESPN baseball game, and a \$150 gift card from the [www.mlb.com](http://www.mlb.com) online shop. Visit [www.mwrpromotions.com](http://www.mwrpromotions.com) for official rules and regulations. For more information, call 221-2606.

### Sam Houston Club

#### Father's Day Brunch

Celebrate Father's Day with Sunday Brunch at the Sam Houston Club June 15 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The brunch features a chocolate fondue station, complimentary champagne and an international food station. The cost is \$18.95 for nonmembers, \$15.95 for members, and \$7.95 for children 6 to 11 years old. Children 5 years old and younger eat free. Reservations are encouraged. For more information or to make reservations, call 224-2721.

#### Karaoke Fridays

The Sam Houston Club will offer free karaoke every Friday at 7 p.m. Practice vocals or just have fun with friends to celebrate the end of another long work week. For more information, call 224-2721.

### Harlequin Dinner Theatre

#### 'Picnic'

The Harlequin Dinner Theatre will present the play "Picnic" by William Inge through June 21. Tickets are \$28 Wednesdays and Thursdays and \$31 Fridays and Saturdays. The doors open at 6:15 p.m. for salad bar and cock-

See MWR P17

**America's Army**  
THE STRENGTH OF THE NATION  
233rd U.S. ARMY BIRTHDAY

**Lunch Meal June 12**

<b>Menu</b>	<b>Baked Mac &amp; Cheese</b>
<b>Rib Eye Steaks</b>	<b>Baked Potato</b>
<b>BBQ Ribs</b>	<b>Rice Pilaf</b>
<b>Fried Fish</b>	<b>Seasoned Broccoli w/Cheese Sauce</b>
<b>Fried Shrimp</b>	<b>Seasoned Corn</b>

**Ass't Salads**  
**Dinner Rolls**  
**Ass't Cake & Pies**  
**Ass't Ice Cream**

Meal Price \$6.35  
Holiday Meal Rate

**Lunch Times**  
Regular: 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Single: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Camp Club: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### MWR from P16

tails, with a buffet from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; the show begins at 8 p.m. Military discounts are available. For more information or reservations, call 222-9694.

### MWR Ticket Office

The ticket office is open Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and closed Saturday through Monday. Purchase Coke Zero 400 Powered by Coca-Cola race tickets. Tickets for this July 5 event are on sale at the MWR Ticket Office through June 27. For more information, visit [www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com](http://www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com) or call 221-1663 or 224-2721.

## Child and Youth Services

### Summer camp registration

Summer camp registration for School Age Services and Middle School/Teen will take place at Central Registration, Building 2797, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; after 4 p.m. will be by appointment only. Registration will be ongoing until slots are filled. Patrons must be registered with Child and Youth Services. Children with special needs will require a meeting prior to registration. For more information or a list of required documents, call 221-4871 or 221-1723.

### Parent Advisory Council

A Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Council meeting will be held June 17 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Child Development Center. PAC meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month. Lunch will be provided. All CYS patrons are encouraged to attend. This is an opportunity to meet staff, attend parent workshops and learn about

detachment commanders, unit leadership and FRG volunteers. The deadline to register is June 9 at 4 p.m. For more information, call 221-2705.

### Single parenting

A single parenting class will be held June 16 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Red Cross, Building 2650. The single-parent Family creates a new set of challenges and concerns that are unique. The class discusses issues such as changing roles, co-parenting, dating, financial responsibilities and many other topics affecting Families. For more information or to register, call 221-0349 or e-mail [thelma.t.kegley@us.army.mil](mailto:thelma.t.kegley@us.army.mil).

### Key Caller Training

The next Family Readiness Group Key Caller Training is scheduled for June 17 from 1 to 3 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. This training defines the responsibilities of the FRG key caller and provides information on performing this role. Registration closes June 13 at 4 p.m. For more information, call 221-2705 or e-mail [samh.acs](mailto:samh.acs).

upcoming events. For more information, call 221-4871 or 221-1723.

## Army Community Service

### Home-buying seminar

Family Employment Readiness will hold a home-buying seminar Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797, training room #2. Bring a lunch to this brown bag seminar and hear all about what is needed to buy a home, as well as talk to a broker about what will fit your personal budget. For more information, call Pam Belanger or Jan Williams at 221-0516 or 221-2705.

### Stress management

The next stress management class will be held Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Red Cross, Building 2650. The class is structured to help increase ability to recognize signs of stress and the affect it has on our lives. It also provides coping strategies to help make informed decisions. For more information or to register, call 221-0349 or e-mail [thelma.t.kegley@us.army.mil](mailto:thelma.t.kegley@us.army.mil).

### Rear Detachment Commander Training

The Mobilization and Deployment Program at Army Community Service will offer a Rear Detachment Commander Training course Wednesday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the conference room at Building 902. This training identifies the responsibilities of rear detachment commanders and Family Readiness. The training also covers how rear detachment commanders work with Families, Family Readiness Group and the Family Support Network. This training is recommended for rear

[mob.deploy@conus.army.mil](mailto:mob.deploy@conus.army.mil).

### Personal Financial Management

Learn the ins and outs of maintaining budgets, effective savings plans and even information on credit reports. Army Community Service's Financial Readiness Program will offer the Personal Financial Management class June 17 from 2 to 4 p.m. at ACS, Building 2797. For more information, call 221-1612.

### Pre- and Post-Deployment Planning

Army Community Service's Mobilization and Deployment Program will offer Pre- and Post-Deployment Planning Training June 17 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. This training is designed to increase the spouse's ability to face deployments with resilience and strength, allowing easier separations and smoother reunions. Registration for this class closes June 13 at 4 p.m. For more information, call 221-2705 or e-mail

[samh.acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil](mailto:samh.acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil).

### Care Team Training

Care Team Training focuses on the Care Team's responsibilities and provides guidance on how to handle issues volunteers could face, such as dealing with the reactions from Families. This training is recommended for casualty assistance officers, casualty notification officers and Battalion Care Team volunteers. The next class will be held June 18 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Army Community Service, Building 2797. The deadline to register is June 16 by 4 p.m. For more information, call 221-2705 or e-mail [samh.acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil](mailto:samh.acs.mob.deploy@conus.army.mil).

### Identity Theft

Learn how to protect yourself from identity theft with this class offered by Financial Readiness at Army Community Service. This class teaches people how to recognize identity theft and what to do if they become a victim. The next class is scheduled for June 19 from 2 to 4 p.m. at ACS, Building 2797. For more information, call 221-1612.

## Honorable service



Photo by Rickey Williams

Mike Waldrop (left), deputy to the garrison commander, congratulates Ralph Rodriguez Jr., supervisor, Education Services Office, for his more than 47 years of service to the Department of Defense, both in the Air Force and as an Army civilian, at Rodriguez's retirement ceremony May 28 at the Sam Houston Club. Rodriguez is joined by his wife of 47 years, Josie. Rodriguez's DoD career started in 1960 when he joined the U.S. Air Force. He entered civil service as an intern at Fort Lewis, Wash., in 1981. Rodriguez served in his current position since 1992.

## Did you know?

Did you know that it was not until 1913 that Army regulations dispensed with left-handed saluting, except for saluting while at Right Shoulder Arms or Order Arms? Originally the junior individual was supposed to salute with the hand farthest from the senior. By 1913, however, saluting was done with the right hand. The regulations were changed long after the change was made in practice.



## Blood is fluid of life

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

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

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



## FCC provider recognized for outstanding care

By Donna Williams  
Child and Youth Services

Leilani Schmidt of Fort Sam Houston has been awarded a Child Development Associate Credential in recognition of outstanding work with young children. The credential was awarded by the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition in Washington, D.C., which represents the Early Childhood Profession.

Schmidt joins several other Family Child Care providers as a recipient of the CDA at Fort Sam Houston. The CDA is the only major national effort to improve childcare by evaluating and recognizing the skills of individuals providing care. The majority of the states include CDA in childcare licensing regulations.

Every candidate for the CDA credential is observed working with young children and is evaluated by a team, which includes early childhood experts and parents. The candidate must demonstrate the ability to work with Families to develop children's physical and intellectual capabilities in a safe and healthy learning environment.

Individuals interested in becoming an FCC provider can call 221-3828 or stop by the FCC office, located at 1630-A Sultan Road, behind the Youth Center.

## Community

### Events

#### 'Legion Jubilee'

The American Legion William M. Randolph Post 593 will host a "Legion Jubilee," Friday from 4 p.m. to 12 a.m.; Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and Sunday from 12 to 6 p.m. at Converse City Park. Admission and parking are free. The event is open to the public. Enjoy carnival rides, music bands on two stages, health fair, arts and crafts booths, community-wide yard sale, food booths, face painting, martial arts demonstrations, police K-9 demonstrations, car and motorcycle shows and a motorcycle run and more. For more information, call 658-1111 or visit [www.Post593.org](http://www.Post593.org).

#### Free care packages

The United Services Organization will be giving away up to two free care packages to any local Families who have a military member deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan. Two hundred care packages are available on a first-come, first-served basis Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday from 12 to 5 p.m. at the USO San Antonio Downtown Community Center, 420 E. Commerce Street. The packages contain variety of toiletries, snacks, etc. For more information, call Julie Dahlberg at 227-9373, ext. 12 or e-mail [JDahlberg@AlamoUSO.org](mailto:JDahlberg@AlamoUSO.org).

#### Golf tournament

The Alamo Chapter-Association of

the U.S. Army will sponsor the "For the Soldier" golf tournament Monday at 1 p.m. at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Course. The tournament will help the chapter's continuing efforts to provide support to Soldiers and community programs. To sign-up teams or enter individually, visit the Fort Sam Houston Golf Course or visit [www.alamochapterausa.org](http://www.alamochapterausa.org). For more information, call retired Col. Brad Freeman at 383-2728.

#### Juneteenth celebration

The Juneteenth Coalition Board invites everyone to participate in the 2008 Juneteenth activities June 19 at 10 a.m. The Juneteenth Freedom Parade will begin at Palmetto and Wyoming at the Buffalo Soldiers Camp Ground. For more information, call Oscar Vicks at 289-7683.

#### Here's to the Heroes

Anheuser-Busch is honored to salute the men and women of our armed forces and their Families. Throughout 2008, members of the military and as many as three direct dependents may enter any one of

Anheuser-Busch's SeaWorld, Busch Gardens or Sesame Place parks with a single-day complimentary admission. For more information or to register, visit <http://www.herosalute.com>.

#### Scholarships available

The Air Force will award 25 college-bound students \$1,000 scholarship toward tuition. Current Air Force Club members, their Family members and grandchildren, who are eligible, can write an essay as their entry for scholarship consideration. Complete program information and rules are available at the Gateway Club at Lackland Air Force Base. All entries must be submitted to the Gateway Club no later than July 1.

#### 'Hunters Extravaganza'

Texas Trophy Hunters Association will hold its annual "Hunters Extravaganza" show July 11 to 13 at the Alamodome; Aug. 1 to 3 at Reliant Center, Houston; and Aug. 15 to 17 at Will Rogers Center, Fort Worth. The show will feature latest in hunting, fishing and outdoor activities. Admission is \$10; active military with ID get in free. For more information, call 771-4554.

#### 'While You're Away' Children's Network

The United Services Organization invites deployed Families to enroll their

children, ages 3 to 10 years old, in the "While You're Away" Children's Network. The program will help children cope with the separation from their deployed parent. For more information, call Julie Dahlberg at 227-9373, ext. 12 or e-mail [JDahlberg@AlamoUSO.org](mailto:JDahlberg@AlamoUSO.org).

#### Freedom Alliance Scholarship Fund

The Freedom Alliance Scholarship Fund is accepting applications for the 2008-2009 academic year. Tuition assistance is available for eligible applicants – dependent sons or daughters of a U.S. Soldier, Sailor, Airman or Marine – who has been killed or permanently disabled (100 percent VA disability rating) as a result of an operational mission or training accident, or who is currently classified as a Prisoner of War or Missing in Action. They must also be a high school senior, high school graduate, or registered as a full time undergraduate student and under age 26. For more information about the Freedom Alliance Scholarship Fund or to apply, call 800-475-6620 or visit <http://www.fascholarship.com/>. Application deadline for the 2008-2009 academic year is July 18.

#### Military wives spa day

The United Services Organization

invites all military wives of deployed servicemembers for a spa day the third Sunday of each month at 1 p.m. at the USO San Antonio Downtown Community Center, 420 E. Commerce Street. Treat yourself to an afternoon of pampering and relaxation. Enjoy complimentary mini-facials and chair massages. Volunteers will care for children during the visit. For more information, call Julie Dahlberg at 227-9373 ext. 12 or e-mail [JDahlberg@AlamoUSO.org](mailto:JDahlberg@AlamoUSO.org).

## Training

### Enterprise Web training

Hands-on training on Enterprise Web Army Medical Department Electronic Forms Support System will be available on the following days:

- Tuesday from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 4 p.m. at Brooke Army Medical Center IMD classroom, lower level.
- Wednesday from 8 to 11:30 a.m. at BAMC IMD classroom, lower level.
- June 17 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 4 p.m. at Army Medical Department Center and School, Building 2841, Room 2105C.
- June 18 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 4 p.m. at AMEDDC&S, Building 2841, Room 2105C.
- June 23 from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 4 p.m. at AMEDDC&S, Building 2841, Room 2105C.

See COMMUNITY P20

**COMMUNITY from P19**

For more information or reservations, call Julie Gueller at 221-6203 or e-mail Julie.Gueller@amedd.army.mil.

**Force tracking system training**

The Information Management Training Branch will provide training for all active military services. The Force XXI Battle Command Brigade and Below /Blue Force Tracking System is a digital, battle command information system that provides near-real-time battle command information to tactical combat, combat support, and combat service support leaders and Soldiers. To register for a course, visit the Army Training Requirements and Resources System at <https://www.atrs.army.mil> and enter course number 5K-F21/012-F46. Courses are available July 28 to 30 and Sept. 22 to 24. For more information, call Marvin Danzy at 221-0640 or e-mail [marvin.danzy@amedd.army.mil](mailto:marvin.danzy@amedd.army.mil), or Hartense Green at 221-2216 or e-mail [hartense.green@amedd.army.mil](mailto:hartense.green@amedd.army.mil).

**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 10 a.m. at the Sam Houston Club. For more information, call Angie Luna at 333-0821 or 386-8265.

**Warrant Officer Association meeting**

The June meeting of the Lone Star Silver Chapter of the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association will be held June 16 at 7 p.m. at Chacho's & Chulucci's, 8614 Perrin Beitel Road, near Loop 410. All active duty, retired, Reserve and National Guard warrant officers and Family members of current or retired warrant officers are invited. For more information, call Juan Gomez at 295-6596 or e-mail [juan.gomez@us.army.mil](mailto:juan.gomez@us.army.mil), or Jim Gonzales at 666-9818 or e-mail [rgonzales879@satx.rr.com](mailto:rgonzales879@satx.rr.com).

**Volunteer****Host Families needed**

American Field Service USA seeks Families to host international high school students as well as teachers from around the world. AFS volunteers support Families and students during their stay. Host Families provide a bed, meals and guidance. For more information, call Diane Soto at 866-237-8721 or e-mail [dsoto@afs.org](mailto:dsoto@afs.org).

# For Sale 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 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 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 221-0546.

**For Sale:** Queen-size sofa sleeper, leather, brown, excellent condition, \$450. Call Sgt. Melendez at 651-6585 or 275-5380.

**For Sale:** Solid wood bunk set with two box springs and mattresses, \$150. Call 271-9310.

**For Sale:** Assorted candy, box of 36 count, \$6; gum, \$5 a box; cedar fence boards, 12 to 15 inches long, great for borders, five for \$1 or take all for less; bubble wrap protective packaging, two large bags, \$20. Call 927-6114 or 887-1856.

**For Sale:** Rustic kitchen table with four chairs, \$500; chaise lounge, beige, new, \$225; Pentair pool cleaner, in ground pool, \$300. Call 697-9261 or 363-4056.

**For Sale:** Toys, infant to toddler, good condition, prices negotiable. Call 268-5176.

**For Sale:** Entertainment unit, \$75; sewing center, \$250; Maytag gas dryer, \$225; Kohler toilet, \$75; glass dining table with six chairs and bakers rack, \$300. Call 535-2249 or e-mail for pictures at [Getmysale@yahoo.com](mailto:Getmysale@yahoo.com).

**For Sale:** Pelican Dare Devil canoe, 15-foot, three seat, \$250. Call 221-2082.

**For Sale:** THULE Rack, with two attachments, kayak and surfboard, \$125 obo; 1980 Volvo DL, new timing belt and water pump, good tires, runs well. Call Dennis at 658-8669.

**For Sale:** Rally scooter, vinyl seat, owner's manual, good condition, \$350 obo. Call Kathy at 691-3503.

**For Sale:** Oak china cabinet, \$350; small wooden entertainment center, \$60; three oak dining chairs,

\$50; printer's drawer, \$30. Call 462-9499.

**For Sale:** Two long hair Chihuahuas, born April 10, black female with brindle marking on paws, brown male with light-colored eyes, \$250 each. Call 748-3434 or e-mail for pictures at [txgracefully@yahoo.com](mailto:txgracefully@yahoo.com).

**For Sale:** Programmable Honeywell digistat thermostat, \$30. Call 221-3549.

**For Sale:** Set of four 22-inch rims and tires, new, six lug patterns, fits Chevys and GMCs, \$1,800 obo. Call 324-7871.

**For Sale:** Oak desk, \$40; computer L-shape desk, \$50; twin stroller, \$60; Evenflo baby back carrier, \$30; Volvo dashmat, \$30. Call 633-2247.

**For Sale:** Half Shitzu and half Boston terrier puppy, \$245 obo; maternity clothes, size XL and 2XL, \$2 and up; twin stroller, new, \$125; bookshelves, 5 feet tall by 3 feet wide, \$95; air tailgate, size small/medium, \$30. Call 633-3859.

**For Sale:** Bedroom set, \$450; Nintendo Wii sports console, \$275. Call 896-8563.

**For Sale:** Sure Step fully electrical chair, blue, brand new, \$1,500; medical lift or medical jack with two canvas cover, one for bath, good up to 350 pounds, \$250; dog kennel, 9 feet long by 6 feet wide and 6 feet high, \$150 obo. Call 290-8472.

**For Sale:** 1998 Honda Prelude, sporty, red, 45K, four cylinder, V-tech motor, auto/sport shift, AC, CD, sunroof, excellent condition, very clean, \$10,000. Call 695-5692.

**Wanted:** Army blue mess dress, male uniform, Medical Command colors, jacket size 48 long, pants size 40 waist by 32 length, with all accessories of colonel. Call 454-2095.