

FORT SAM HOUSTON News Leader

"HOME OF ARMY MEDICINE"

Exercise your right



Photo by Olivia Mendoza

Master Sgt. Robin Johnson (right), equal opportunity adviser, Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston, looks up state-specific voting information for Staff Sgt. Ryan Bollinger while he registers to vote Tuesday at the voter registration booth at the AMEDDC&S. Johnson wore a dress from the early 1900s when women were involved in the suffrage movement. A voter registration booth will be open for voting assistance near the Post Exchange and Commissary Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. *See related story, Page 6.*

Army leaders address training needs of 21st century recruits

By Jeff Crawley
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs Office

The Army is meeting all of its recruiting goals and getting people who are motivated to become Soldiers.

That was one point the commanding general of the Training and Doctrine Command made at the Initial Entry Training Forum Aug. 18 to 21 in San Antonio.

The TRADOC-sponsored forum drew about 180 Army senior leaders from training centers, who discussed the training needs of the 21st century information-age recruits. It was hosted by the Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston.

"There may be nothing more important than what we do in the Army and that is take young people who raise their right hands and support

See TRAINING NEEDS P4

UPCOMING

FREE TICKETS



Tim McGraw concert

Free tickets for a Tim McGraw outdoor concert, to be held Sept. 11 on Fort Sam Houston, will be available Sept. 4 on a first-come, first-served basis to service members, their families and authorized Department of Defense personnel. The tickets will be distributed from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center on Wilson Road, at the MacArthur Johnson Track Field across from Army Community Service on Stanley Road, and across from the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Building 124 on Stanley Road. Each person may receive up to four tickets. The outdoor concert begins at 7 p.m. and will be held at MacArthur Field between Reynolds and Allen roads off Stanley Road.

Taking care of Soldiers

ISR tries 'pixie dust' to regrow limbs

By Elaine Wilson
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

"Pixie dust" that regrows limbs sounds like the stuff of fairy tales, but medical experts here are hoping they can use it to make magic happen for wounded warriors.

Doctors from the U.S.

Army Institute of Surgical Research are trying a regenerative medicine powder in hopes of stimulating tissue growth in Soldiers with missing extremities.

"The powder is FDA approved and is already being used for hernia repairs and other applications," said Dr. Steven Wolf, chief and

task area manager of clinical trials at ISR. "But it has never been used for this purpose in people."

ISR researchers discovered the powder being used at regenerative medicine centers in Pittsburgh while seeking medical innovations that could benefit wounded warriors. They were partic-

ularly interested in medical advances that could aid in combating the loss of extremities, which is a "common problem" on today's battlefield, Wolf said.

"This is a topic the Army and DoD are interested in

See PIXIE DUST P9

Binz-Engleman gate to relocate

The Binz-Engleman Access Control Point will close the evening of Aug. 29 through the morning of Sept. 1 while contractors relocate the ACP to Schofield Road, near the fire station. The gate relocation will also affect access onto S-33 Road. People will no longer be able to access S-33 from Schofield Road starting Sept. 1. The gate relocation is a necessary measure to accommodate Base Realignment and Closure-related construction along Schofield Road.

E-MAIL NEWS LEADER AT: NEWS.LEADER@CONUS.ARMY.MIL

Message from the commander



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT CENTER AND SCHOOL
AND FORT SAM HOUSTON
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-5014

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

21 AUG 2008

MCCS-GAA

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL AMEDDC&S PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Labor Day Safety Awareness

1. The Labor Day Holiday honors working Americans and is celebrated on the first Monday in September. This holiday also ends the 101 days of summer. Over this special weekend, many of us will travel and participate in a variety of recreational activities. You have worked hard and you deserve a break.
2. According to recent statistics, the Labor Day Holiday weekend is the third most dangerous holiday period for alcohol-related traffic fatalities. Since October 2007, the Army has lost 115 Soldiers to fatal privately owned vehicle (POV) accidents. I ask commanders and supervisors to brief all their personnel on accident avoidance prior to the Labor Day weekend. Concentrate your efforts on POV operation and recreational activities. Reinforce the basic requirement that all Soldiers driving long distances complete the Travel Risk Planning System (TRIPS) program. This ensures that our Soldiers understand the risks associated with their journeys and the mitigating actions necessary to minimize the probability of an accident. TRIPS can be accessed from the Combat Readiness Center website <https://crc.army.mil/home>. Your comments should address adequate sleep/rest before long trips, wearing seat belts, wearing helmets and other protective gear when operating motorcycles, driving defensively, and wearing life vests while boating or water skiing.
3. Review recreational hazards and relevant protective measures to prevent accidents. Remind your people to be unimpaired and rested while driving, boating, swimming, or participating in other activities demanding skill and alertness. Additionally, leaders should emphasize sexual assault awareness, prevention, and response. Guidance is available at www.sexualassault.army.mil.
4. You are doing great work. The AMEDDC&S team needs all its Soldiers and civilian teammates; we cannot afford to lose anyone. Through awareness, leadership, and emphasizing responsible actions, we can prevent tragic and senseless accidents. Our most valuable resource is our military and civilian employees and their Families.
5. Enjoy your Holiday safely!

RUSSELL J. CZERW
Major General, DC
Commanding

News Leader

Editorial Staff

Army Medical Department Center
and School and Fort Sam Houston
Commander

Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw

Garrison Commander

Col. Mary Garr

Public Affairs Officer

Phillip Reidinger

Editor/Writer

Elaine Wilson

Staff Writers

Minnie Jones

Olivia Mendoza

Jeff Crowley

Layout Artist

Lori Newman

News Leader office:

1212 Stanley Road
Building 124, Suite 4
Fort Sam Houston, Texas
78234-5004, 210-221-0615,
DSN 471-0615
Fax: 210-221-1198

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News Briefs

Bone marrow drive

In support of the Department of Defense Marrow Donor Program, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Sam Houston will conduct a Bone Marrow Campaign Sept. 8 to 12. Units on post will sponsor on-site drives throughout the week, culminating with a postwide bone marrow drive Sept. 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Post Exchange. To register for the donor program, participants will need to fill out paperwork and provide four swabs from the inside of their cheek. The DoD center will inform people if they are a potential donor, although there is no obligation to donate. Statistics show an 80 percent survival rate of patients who receive marrow donations, according to the DoD Marrow Donor Program. Currently, there are more than 500 DoD personnel suffering from disorders requiring marrow transplants. In 2007, 421 DoD personnel donated and saved lives. For more information, call Frank Tapia, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, at 221-0679 or e-mail frank.tapiajr@us.army.mil.

Hispanic Heritage Month meeting

The Hispanic Heritage Month committee will meet Aug. 28 at noon in Building 142 on Stanley Road. The meeting is open to the Fort Sam Houston community. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Megan Grant at 295-6800.

Change of command

Capt. Lolito Ganai will relinquish command of A Company, 264th Medical Battalion to Capt. Christopher Ellison Aug. 28 at noon at the Blesse Auditorium in Willis Hall, Army Medical Department Center and School. The ceremony is open to the public.

School board meeting

The Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees will meet Aug. 28 at 11 a.m. at the Fort Sam Houston ISD Professional Development Center, 1908 Winans Road.

Back-to-School Bash

The Patch Shoppette, located on the corner of Patch and Harney roads, will host a Back-to-School Bash Aug. 28 from 2 to 6 p.m. in the shoppette's side parking lot. The event will include food, music, games, fingerprinting and a visit from McGruff the Crime Dog. For more information, call Diana Hines, shoppette manager, at 225-3589.

Crime prevention

Lincoln Military Housing will host a meeting to discuss crime prevention Aug. 29 from 5:30

See NEWS BRIEFS P4

Officials urge community to prepare before disaster hits

By Jeff Crowley

Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs Office

With September being National Preparedness Month, installation officials are encouraging Fort Sam Houston residents and employees to get a kit, to make a plan and to practice it.

"It really doesn't matter why something bad happened, you just have to be able to respond to it when it does," said Brad Barrett, emergency manager at the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.

The most common natural disasters in this area are severe thunderstorms, high winds and flash flooding, Barrett said.

With heavy rains, the Salado Creek basin floods and this leads to frequent closures of the Binz-Engleman access control point.

"If it rains just a couple inches in an hour it (the gate) will close," Barrett said.

Barrett heeds motorists to obey the safety slogan, "Turn Around, Don't Drown," and not to drive through flowing water.

Although the flooding does not affect buildings, it still has an impact on the installation. For example, if an ambulance needed to get to Brooke Army Medical Center from Fort Sam Houston it would have to go out on IH-35, he said.

Another threat to the installation is hazardous materials spills, Barrett said. The post is embedded in the middle of San Antonio and surrounded by interstates and rail lines that carry hazardous materials.

"There is a rail line that runs right through the middle of the installation by BAMC," he said.

Fort Sam Houston units regularly participate in HAZMAT exercises with civil authorities, he said. The next exercise is Sept. 15 to 19.

When the Fort Sam Houston com-

munity needs to be notified of a threat the Installation Operations Center uses a variety of overlapping communications systems.

A mass e-mail notification goes out to commanders and directorates warning of the danger so they can let their Soldiers and employees know. This can be done in conjunction with an automated phone notification system, he said.

The Giant Voice is a mass notification system that uses eight speaker towers throughout the post to reach people outdoors.

"It does audible voice messages that can be very tailored," Barrett said.

The Giant Voice does not use a siren system because that would require people to know what the different sirens mean, he said.

Another system that will be available in a couple months is the Computer Emergency Notification System, which sends out an emergency notice to every computer on the installation, Barrett said.

For more information about emergency preparedness kits and Family plans, visit the Department of Homeland Security Web site at <http://www.ready.gov>.

The CENS message appears on the computer screen regardless of what program the user is in, Barrett said. It also sounds an audible warning. The computer user must manually close the message.

The advantage of CENS is that it does not sit in someone's e-mail waiting to be opened, he said.

Of course, people are encouraged to tune to local TV and radio stations and Internet sites, such as the National Weather Service, Barrett said.

National Preparedness Month is an opportunity for Families to focus on any type of event that could happen here, said Maj. Dave Harrington, an emergency medical planner at Headquarters, U.S. Army Medical Command.

Harrington warns people not to get caught up in the three misconceptions



File photo by Olivia Mendoza

Firefighter David Lewis securely wraps the arms of Capt. Lawrence Salinas with tape to keep any nerve agent from entering into the suit during a mass casualty exercise in September at Fort Sam Houston.

of disasters:

It will not happen here, it will not happen to me, and someone else will be there to take care of the problem.

"We tend to assume that the cavalry is going to come riding in and save the day," Harrington said, "and in some situations that may not be doable."

Harrington recommends having a minimum two-week supply of non-perishable food items and water along with emergency supplies, such as flashlights and batteries. With impending disasters, such as hurricanes, stores quickly run out of items and it may be awhile before they are restocked.

Dr. Keith Steinhurst, an emergency planner at the MEDCOM, said that it is not only important to have a Family emergency plan, but to exercise it.

"If you don't actually try to work it before the day of (the disaster), you could get surprised and it may not be a good surprise," Steinhurst said.

For more information about emergency preparedness kits and Family plans, visit the Department of Homeland Security Web site at <http://www.ready.gov>.

News Briefs

from P3

to 6:30 p.m. at the Watkins Terrace Community Center for Watkins Terrace residents. Residents will be able to meet with an LMH representative during this time to discuss the first official Ista energy bill.

Museum closure

The Fort Sam Houston Museum will be closed Aug. 31 in observance of the Labor Day holiday. The museum will resume normal operations Sept. 3. For more information, call 221-1886.

AUSA luncheon

Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Wood, command senior enlisted leader, North American Aerospace Defense Command/U.S. Northern Command, will speak at the Alamo Chapter, Association of the U.S. Army luncheon Sept. 3 at 11:30 a.m. at the Sam Houston Club.

Suicide Awareness Expo

The Fort Sam Houston Army Substance Abuse Program will sponsor a postwide Suicide Awareness Expo Sept. 9 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Army Community Service center, Building 2797 on Stanley Road. The Fort Sam Houston community is encouraged to attend and learn about helping resources. The event is open to the public and information booths will be available. For more information, call 221-0133 or 221-1254, or e-mail steve.henry2@us.army.mil.

BAMC parking lot construction

Work on several parking lots located in the Warrior Transition Battalion area near Brooke Army Medical Center will begin within the next few weeks. Work on the parking lots adjacent to Buildings 3640 and 3642, located off Rawley E. Chambers parallel to the railroad tracks (Okubu Barracks Road), is scheduled to begin this weekend. Work on the handicapped slots for Building 3625, located on Rawley E. Chambers off George Beach Road, will begin Sept. 2. Only occupants and employees should use these lots while the work is being accomplished. If the weekend work is delayed due to weather issues, WTB personnel should park at the new Binz-Engleman parking lot where transportation shuttle service will be provided to Buildings 3640 and 3642. For information on transportation, call Staff Sgt. Marshall Matney, WTB Transportation NCO in charge, at 422-7259 or Maj. Juan Rosas, WTB executive officer, at 916-6492. For project information, call Anna Romo, Directorate of Public Works, at 221-5389.

SFAC moves to new location

The Soldier and Family Assistance Center has moved from the basement of Brooke Army Medical Center to Building 3644, 3931 Okubu Barracks Road, off George Beach Boulevard. For more information, call 916-7322.

TRAINING NEEDS from P1

and defend the Constitution of the United States," Gen. William Wallace, TRADOC commander, told forum attendees Aug. 19.

Other key points that Wallace made included:

- Increasing Basic Combat Training from nine weeks to 10 weeks without increasing training requirements.

- Field Manual 7-0 Full-Spectrum Training will be released within two months.

It addresses how the Army will perform training in an era of persistent conflict.

- The Army has established a pilot program that trains recruits to earn their GEDs in four weeks. About 45 students are currently enrolled in the U.S. Army Preparatory School and upon graduation will move on to Basic Combat Training.

- Advanced Individual Training drill sergeants have been replaced with platoon sergeants. The move has put Soldiers in training into a less-controlled environment so they can experience what is expected in a chain of command and, therefore, be better prepared for their first unit assignment.

The primary purpose of the IET forum was to look at new approaches, innovative ideas and better



Photo by Jen Rodriguez

Rebecca Hooper, Center for the Intrepid program manager, greets the attendees from the Initial Entry Training Forum Aug. 20 in the lobby of the CFI. Hooper told the visitors about the center's three missions: education, training and research.

ways train new Soldiers, said Col. Fred Kienle, G3 director of Operations and Training for the Army Accessions Command, at Fort Monroe, Va.

"We focus primarily on Basic Combat Training, Advanced Individual Training and One-Station Unit Training and all those related processes and efforts to bring new Soldiers into the Army," Kienle said.

Participants heard from about 25 presenters including key TRADOC personnel, Department of the Army staff, brigade commanders and others involved in the IET endeavor, Kienle said.

Topics ranged from athletic trainers in Basic



Photo by Esther Garcia

Lt. Gen. Benjamin Freakley, commanding general of the Army Accessions Command, and Staff Sgt. Shiloh Harris, hold the Purple Heart medal award citation Harris received Aug. 19 at the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel in San Antonio. Harris was injured during an improvised explosive device in Feb. 2007, in Iraq. The Harris family attended the award ceremony.

Combat Training to barracks construction to Sexual Assault Prevention and Response. Attendees also broke off into small work groups to exchange ideas.

Staff Sgt. Herbert Thompson, the TRADOC Drill Sergeant of the Year, participated in a working group to give the drill sergeants' broader perspective. One of the subjects he spoke on was blended reception, which gives recruits one chain of command from the start allowing them to be trained immediately.

In the old system, a new recruit may arrive at a reception station and sit there a week to 10 days and only do six hours of actual physical

in-processing, Thompson said. The rest of the time was just spent waiting.

The forum was also the stage of a Purple Heart ceremony Aug. 19 at the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel.

Staff Sgt. Shiloh Harris was awarded the medal by Lt. Gen. Benjamin C. Freakley, commanding general of the Army Accessions Command. Harris, of B Troop, 1st Squadron, 89th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, was injured Feb. 19, 2007, in Iraq, when his vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device.

See TRAINING
NEEDS P8

Casualty, Mortuary Affairs Conference highlights importance of mission

By Linda Green

Director, Human Resources Directorate

To enhance current operations and coordination of military funeral honors, the Fort Sam Houston Casualty Assistance Center hosted a Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Conference Aug. 11 and 12 at the LaQuinta Inn and Conference Center in downtown San Antonio. More than 80 personnel, military and civilian, attended the conference.

During his opening remarks, Mike Waldrop, deputy to the garrison commander, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Sam Houston, thanked the attendees for coming to the conference and for their commitment and assistance to the FSH CAC. He expressed appreciation on behalf of Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw, installation commander, and Col. Mary Garr, garrison commander.

Waldrop stressed the importance of the CAC's mission and the vital role it plays in assisting Army Families during their greatest hour of need.

Conference attendees received information on all aspects of casualty operations including burial and honors, casualty assistance and casu-



Courtesy photo

William Trower Jr., director, Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, provides an overview on the mission, structure, and future initiatives of the cemetery for attendees of the Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Conference, which was held Aug. 11 and 12 at the LaQuinta Inn and Conference Center in downtown San Antonio.

ality notification officer training, honors requests, and the responsibilities of funeral directors and veteran service

organizations and Veterans of Foreign Wars personnel.

William Trower Jr., director, Fort Sam Houston National

Cemetery, provided an overview of the cemetery's history, changing demographics and future operational changes

affecting burial requirements.

Next, attendees traveled to the Headquarters Company Honors Platoon training area where they observed simulated honors and viewed the ceremonial horses that are vital to the caisson mission, which comprises an eight-person squad — one lead rider, one wheel person and six pall bearers. Fort Sam Houston is one of three installations that perform caisson missions. The others are Fort Myer, Va., and Fort Sill, Okla.

For many of the attendees, particularly the funeral directors, this was the first time they were able to observe a caisson up close and interact directly with Soldiers from the Honors Platoon in a non-burial environment.

See CONFERENCE P10

Fort Sam celebrates Women's Equality Day

Eighty-eight years ago, on Aug. 26, 1920, women gained the right to vote when the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified. This event has been officially commemorated the last 37 years, when a joint resolution of Congress in 1971 established Aug. 26 as Women's Equality Day.

The permanent theme for Women's Equality Day is, "Celebrating Women's Right to Vote." This theme seems especially fitting this election year.

To commemorate Women's Equality Day as well as Army Voter Registration Month, the installation's equal opportunity community and voter assistance officers are partnering at voter registration booths throughout the post.

The booths feature educational displays about Women's Equality Day and the right to vote. They are staffed by a voter assistance officer and a volunteer from the EO community, who has been deputized by the state as a volunteer deputy registrar.

See **WOMEN'S P7**



Photo by Olivia Mendoza

Master Sgt. Robin Johnson, equal opportunity adviser, Army Medical Department Center and School and Fort Sam Houston, and U.S. Army Garrison Commander Col. Mary Garr cut the ribbon Tuesday for the voter registration booth outside the AMEDDC&S. Johnson wore a dress representative of the time when women were involved in the suffrage movement.



Courtesy photo

Lt. Col. John Lamoureux, commander, 232nd Medical Battalion, presents Capt. Maria Mavuso, from Pretoria, South Africa, with a Commander's Coin for speaking Aug. 21 during the Women's Equality Day event at the Hacienda Recreation Center. Mavuso focused on her nation's fight for women's rights.

Soldiers learn about women's equality

By **Ben Paniagua**
Hacienda Recreation Center

About 150 Soldiers from the 32nd Medical Brigade celebrated Women's Equality Day Aug. 21 at the Hacienda Recreation Center.

Women's Equality Day is celebrated each year on Aug. 26. The date was designated by Congress in 1971 to honor women's continuing efforts toward full equality.

The program's theme was "Celebrating Women's Right to Vote." The guest speaker, Capt. Maria Mavuso, from Pretoria, South Africa, gave a moving speech on the problems her country went through while fighting for this precious right. Mavuso is at

Fort Sam Houston attending the U.S. Army Medical Department Captain's Career Course.

Pvt. Josef Vacula, from F Company, 232nd Medical Battalion, played a classical piece on the baby grand piano. He chose Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata." The audience cheered at the end of the long piece.

Vacula, who is originally from the Czech Republic, studied in Russia and the Czech Republic before coming to the United States in 2000.

"I learned English from watching TV, mostly 'The Simpsons,'" he said.

Mavuso and Vacula both

See **EQUALITY P7**

EQUALITY from P6

received plaques of appreciation from Lt. Col. John Lamoureux, commander, 232nd Medical Battalion.

"I thought it (the program) was good," said Pfc. Jeremy Madden, 232nd Med. Bn. "It was a good break getting away from the company."

Soldiers also participated in a trivia contest regarding women's right to vote. The winners received a \$25 gift card from Army and Air Force Exchange Service. Beacon and Eisenhower National Bank, sponsors of the show, presented gift certificates after a drawing at the end of the program.

The program was hosted by Sgt. 1st Class Jeanelle Cornelius and members of Headquarters Company, 32nd Medical Brigade. The event was sponsored by the 32nd Med. Bde. Equal Opportunity Program and the Hacienda Recreation Center.

WOMEN'S from P6

Those visiting the voter registration booths can learn about the women's suffrage movement, while registering to vote or requesting an absentee ballot. The voter assistance officers are able to assist military members and their Families in registering

to vote in their state of residence and requesting absentee voting materials. The deputy registrars can assist residents of Texas in registering to vote, changing their address or requesting a replacement registration card.

(Source: Fort Sam Houston EO Office.)



EXERCISE YOUR FREEDOM



Photo by Jen Rodriguez

Maj. Dan Fisher, an administrative resident, shows participants of the Initial Entry Training Forum the Tran-sit car simulation Aug. 20 at the Center for the Intrepid. The virtual driving experience helps Warriors in Transition, who have prosthesis or injuries, to gain confidence on the road.

TRAINING NEEDS from P4

And, forum participants observed Warriors in Transition undergoing physical rehabilitation Aug. 20 at the Center for the Intrepid at Fort Sam Houston.

"It was a lot more than a tour," Kienle said. "It ensured understanding, awareness and an idea exchange and looked at the incredible work that is being done at Fort Sam Houston."

Lt. Col. Dean Redden, inspector general for TRADOC, said that the forum provided him with much information about a variety of topics.

"I got a lot of good information, particularly about the drill sergeants becoming platoon sergeants in AIT, and all the different types of projects going on with barracks renovation or with construction as it relates to BRAC or the creation of the centers of excellence," Redden said. "It was a great forum."

SUICIDE AWARENESS PREVENTION DAY
SHOULDER TO SHOULDER:
NO SOLDIER STANDS ALONE
Sept. 9
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
TOPICS COVERED:

Opening Remarks: Maj. Gen. Russell Czerw
PTSD: Veteran Affairs
Depression: Dr. Anita Mancini-Mitchell
Warning signs and symptoms

Participating organizations will be available to discuss concerns and provide information:

United Way, Crisis Intervention
 Deputy Mobile Outreach Team
 Provost Marshal
 Fort Sam Army Substance Abuse Program
 Veterans Affairs
 Family Advocacy Program
 Fort Sam Houston chaplains
 San Antonio Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse
 San Antonio State Hospital

Location: Army Community Service
Building 2797
2010 Stanley Road

Open to all military, DoD civilians and spouses

For more information, call 221-0133 or 221-1254

PIXIE DUST from P1

because when injuries happen in war, most of them are extremities injuries," the doctor said. "With burns in particular, we end up with a lot of loss of digits."

Based on studies, ISR doctors were intrigued by what they nicknamed "pixie dust," and the idea of a new application for an existing innovation.

"Since the powder was FDA approved and safe for use we figured we would try it," Wolf said. "The idea was out there that it might work for this application but it had never been tried on humans."

The "pixie dust" is far from magic. It is actually a substance, in this case derived from pig bladder. To create what Wolf refers to as "extracellular matrix," scientists take a mix of protein and connective tissue, "spin" it to remove the cells, and then mash the remaining material into a powder.

"When put onto an open wound, it seems the body starts to regrow normal tissue," Wolf said.

The theory is that when the powder is applied, circulating stem cells see the matrix, stop and differentiate into whatever they are near, Wolf said. For instance, if by bone, then the cells become bone; if by blood vessels, then they become blood vessels; or if by a nerve, they become a nerve.

In other words, the regenerative medicine powder acts as a stop sign for stem cells, which are undifferentiated

"The powder is FDA approved and is already being used for hernia repairs and other applications. But it has never been used for this purpose in people."

Dr. Steven Wolf
Chief and task area manager of clinical trials at ISR

cells everyone has circulating throughout their blood stream. Stem cells can renew themselves and can differentiate to yield the major specialized cell types of the tissue or organ, according to the National Institutes of Health Web site.

Wolf likens the concept to a salamander.

"You pull a tail off a salamander and it regrows," Wolf said. "The end of the tail forms a blastema, and that blastema elongates. We think that's what happens when we put this powder on."

"This process of growing your fingers has happened to you before, in your mother's womb," Wolf said. "The code is there, the DNA is there, what we're trying to do is trick your body into doing that again."

Application of the powder involves surgery to open the wound and apply it, a procedure that can be done in conjunction with an already scheduled surgery. Other than the normal risks of surgery, Wolf said trials of the powder are practically harmless.

"If it doesn't work, there is no downside," Wolf said. "That's why we're testing it on fingers versus legs. If we apply it to an amputee, the downside is the Soldier won't be able to walk for several months."

So far, doctors have applied the powder to two Soldiers with missing fingers. "The first time, we saw an increase in length of the finger, but the wound closed before further growth could occur," Wolf said. "The other case is too soon to tell."

Wolf emphasized the concept is referred to an innovative surgical technique. "It's not a sure thing," he said. "It's a possibility."

However, "We're hoping for increased length with bone support," Wolf said. "But we're not sure how long it will take or if it will even work."

The odds may be high, but Wolf is hoping to take a complex scientific innovation and yield magical results.

"If we have a Soldier who was blown up by an IED and missing fingers, and we have a chance to give him his fingers back, increase his function, how can we not try?" he said.

Soldiers have more flexibility in naming beneficiaries

WASHINGTON — Based on changes to law over the past two years, Soldiers now have greater flexibility in determining beneficiaries for their \$100,000 death gratuity.

On July 1, the law began allowing Soldiers to designate up to 10 beneficiaries, in \$10,000 increments, none of whom are required to be a spouse or family member.

To accommodate the change, the Office of the Secretary of Defense has published an updated version of the Department of Defense Form 93, Record of Emergency Data.

Since July 1, however, a number of Soldiers filled out the 1988 version of the DD Form 93. These Soldiers must now complete a new DD Form 93 using the January 2008

"All commanders and leaders must ensure that Soldiers receive proper guidance and counseling related to their expanded death gratuity options."

Gen. Pete Chiarelli
Vice chief of staff of the Army

version.

Before the new form was available, the Department of the Army issued guidance designed to allow for the new beneficiary options. Feedback from the field, though, indicates that the work-around does not adequately allow Defense Finance and Accounting Service to clearly

See BENEFICIARIES P11

CONFERENCE from P5

Day two of the conference included a briefing by Roberto Munoz, Department of the Army Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Office, Human Resources Command, Washington, D.C.

Munoz stressed the importance of reporting a death to the CAC, especially for funeral directors. Several funeral directors said that many Families do not want the Army to know about the deceased Soldier, nor do they want military funeral honors.

"That's fine," Munoz replied. "But the U.S. Army still needs to know that a Soldier died regardless of whether he was on active duty, retired or a veteran."

The CAC understands the grieving process all too well. They know that during grief, many Families and survivors do not want to make contact with the military. Munoz

Conference attendees received information on all aspects of casualty operations including burial and honors, casualty assistance and casualty notification officer training, honors requests, and the responsibilities of funeral directors and veteran service organizations and Veterans of Foreign Wars personnel.

stressed that reporting the death of Soldier is of utmost importance, especially if the surviving Family member is still receiving the deceased's retired pay or in other cases where the survivor or dependent is entitled to benefits upon death, such as an annuity under the Survivor Benefit Program.

Other entitlements may include burial allowance, burial in a national cemetery, Dependency Indemnity Compensation, educational assistance and the Veterans Administration Home Loan Program.

Several funeral directors asked questions and said they

were pleased at the knowledge they gained at the conference.

Munoz said he was pleased with the turnout, especially audience diversity. He said "this was one of the best audiences" since he began briefing at installations more than six months ago. Munoz also said that he was not aware of any other CAC in the Army that had conducted a casualty conference of this magnitude.

Officials from the Fort Sam Houston CAC said they look forward to a continued partnership, along with the unselfish service, of appointed casualty notification officers, casualty assistance officers and unit chaplains who are called on at a moment's notice to perform one of the most important missions of their careers.

Honoring fallen Soldiers

Casualty Assistance Center acts swiftly to help Families

By Linda Green
Director, Human Resources Directorate

At the Fort Sam Houston Casualty Assistance Center, each case is handled expeditiously, whether it involves a deceased Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom Soldier, a retiree, or someone seriously injured and medically evacuated to Brooke Army Medical Center.

The CAC's area of responsibility includes 67 southern Texas counties, spanning 67,136 square miles. The San Antonio community, also known as Military USA, is home to the second largest retiree population in the

world. More than 70,000 retirees from various services live in the city, not including thousands of veterans residing in the greater San Antonio area.

Since 2004, the CAC's annual workload has increased more than 30 percent and continues to grow with increasing hostile activities in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Many CACs throughout the Army have a smaller workload, but their staffing is often twice the size of the CAC here, which has a staff of seven, led by James Stokes, CAC supervisor.

The mission of honoring fallen Soldiers usually begins

See HONORING P11

HONORING from P10

with a formal request from the servicing funeral home that coordinates all aspects of the funeral honors on behalf of the Family of the deceased.

Once the CAC receives the formal request, they immediately contact the U.S. Army Garrison Honors Platoon, assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company. The platoon conducts the majority of Army military funeral honors in the Fort Sam Houston area of responsibility.

The Honors Platoon comprises 23 Soldiers who perform funeral missions almost on a daily basis and often back to

back. It is not uncommon for the same two-, six- or eight-man team of Soldiers to perform honors in Houston, San Angelo, or McAllen, Texas, areas in the morning, and later in the day conduct honors at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery or conduct planeside honors for a deceased service member arriving at the San Antonio International Airport.

When the Honors Platoon Soldiers are not available because of full scheduling, the post relies on the services of the 75th Regional Support Command (U.S. Army Reserve), Houston; the U.S. Army National Guard headquartered in Austin, Texas; veteran service organizations; and Veterans of Foreign Wars.



Photo by Esther Garcia

The caisson unit from the U.S. Army Garrison Honors Platoon performs honors at a military funeral at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. The Honors Platoon comprises 23 Soldiers who perform funeral missions on an almost daily basis.

BENEFICIARIES from P9

determine Soldier intent regarding their death gratuity choices, officials said.

Only Soldiers who completed the old DD Form 93 since July 1 are required to go back and complete the new version, officials said, but they added that all Soldiers are eligible to update their beneficiaries.

DD Forms 93 that were completed or updated prior to July 1 remain valid, officials said. However, Soldiers are encouraged to update their DD 93s on the new forms as soon as practicable.

"This is a command issue,"

said Gen. Pete Chiarelli, the vice chief of staff of the Army. "All commanders and leaders must ensure that Soldiers receive proper guidance and counseling related to their expanded death gratuity options. Talk to your Soldiers; tell them to talk to their spouses and help them make appropriate decisions."

For more information or questions regarding the death gratuity and the DD Form 93, Soldiers and their Family members should contact their local servicing personnel administration center.

(Source: Office of the Chief of Public Affairs)

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIQUIDATE YOUR CREDIT CARD DEBT?



IT CAN HAPPEN

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



You are cordially invited to participate in the
Hiring Heroes Workshops & Career Fair
(Job Opportunities for Injured Service Members and their Spouses/Caregivers)

Monday, September 22, 2008
 Resume Writing Workshop and Career Fair Preparation
 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
(Get assistance with writing professional resumes and career fair preparation.)

Tuesday, September 23, 2008
 Hiring Heroes Career Fair
 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Talk to over 70 DoD, Federal and Private Sector recruiters about opportunities in various civilian career needs.

Both events will be held at:
The Sam Houston Club
 1395 Chafee Road
 Fort Sam Houston, TX

San Antonio Hiring Heroes Career Fair preparation

The Hiring Heroes Career Fair will be held Sept. 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club.

The following workshops, seminars and job fair preparation classes are being offered to help people prepare for the upcoming Hiring Heroes Career Fair:

Federal Job Application Development – These classes are courtesy of the Office of Personnel Management. Learn tips on completing the federal application, where to find federal jobs, and go “live” inputting your application into USAJOBS. Sign up at the Warrior and

Family Support Center on the second floor of the Powless Guest House.

Classes will be held Sept. 4, 11 and 16 from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Reservations are required. The classes are reserved for Warriors in Transition and their Family members only.

Job Fair Preparation Class – This class is courtesy of the Army Career and Alumni Program and will offer tips on how to work a job fair, final list of employers and jobs offered, plus a resume review. The class will be held Sept. 3 from 9 to 11 a.m. in Building 2263, Room B-100. For reservations, call ACAP at

221-1213. The class is open to all ACAP clients.

Small group/individual counseling – The counseling is courtesy of the Army Career and Alumni Program and the Office of Personnel Management. Counseling is available in the Soldier and Family Assistance Center on a walk-in basis Sept. 3, 10 and 17. Civilian resume counseling with Tinisha Lomax will be held from 1 to 2:30 p.m., and federal assistance with Kim Goffar from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Priority will be given to Warriors in Transition and their Family members. Similar assistance is available Sept. 5 and 12 in the ACAP Center, Building 2263, Room B-99 for any ACAP client. To reserve a workstation, call 221-1213.

‘Last Chance Resume & Federal Job Application Workshop’ – The workshop is courtesy of experienced mentors. One-on-one help will be offered to build or fine-tune resumes and applications. Same-day classes will be presented on resumes, federal applications, how to work a job fair, reasonable accommodations, veteran’s preference, and dress for success. The workshop will be held Sept. 22 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sam Houston Club on a walk-in basis.

People are urged to prepare their resumes well before Sept. 23. Planning ahead, creating a resume, having it reviewed by ACAP or OPM counselors, and attending a TAP workshop are all part of a comprehensive approach for future success after military service. The ability to present talents, skills and experience to prospective employers is a lifelong skill.

Community support

Eagle Scout project benefits military, Families

Story and photo by Esther Garcia
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

Life Scout Michael Weaver, 17 years old, of Boy Scout Troop 262, Flower Mound, Texas, informed his scoutmaster that for his Eagle Scout Project, his goal was to collect \$4,000 worth of goods to donate to the Fisher Houses at Fort Sam Houston. His scoutmaster was skeptical, as this had never been done before.

But Weaver exceeded his goal and expectations and collected \$7,000 worth of non-perishables items and \$2,000 in cash donations in a drive conducted the last two weeks

of July in the Flower Mound-Highland Village Area.

On Aug. 21, Weaver and his parents, retired Air Force Col. Andrew Weaver, former wing commander for Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, and Melissa Weaver, arrived in San Antonio in a U-Haul filled to capacity with boxes of groceries and \$2,000 in cash that will be used to buy stereo equipment for the Fisher Houses.

In April of this year, Michael and his parents visited the Fisher Houses and he decided he wanted to do something for the Soldiers returning from overseas.

Melissa encouraged her son; she had supported the Fisher House at Wright-Patterson.

"It is a pleasure to see our young folks taking care of our Soldiers and their Families," said Inge Godfrey, manager for the Fisher Houses.

Godfrey and Russ Fritz, assistant manager for the Fisher Houses, presented Michael with the Fisher House Foundation Coin and the Army Fisher House Coin.

"It was a lot of work, but it was worth it," said Michael, who put in 200 hours on his computer, organized multiple meetings with his scouts, and

See **COMMUNITY P20**



(Left) Fisher Houses Manager Inge Godfrey and Assistant Manager Russ Fritz help Micheal Weaver and his father, Andrew, from Flower Mound, Texas, unload \$7,000 worth of non-perishable items for the Fisher Houses Aug. 21. The items were collected as part of Michael's Eagle Scout Project. A \$2,000 cash donation will be used to buy stereo equipment for the Fisher Houses.

Coach helps Warriors in Transition return to civilian life

Story and photo by Cheryl Harrison
Army Community Service Marketing

Society offers coaches for virtually every aspect of life, from Little League and soccer to voice and athletics and even down to labor and delivery.

A coach provides encouragement, mentorship, praise and sometimes even stern words, but all for the betterment of the individual that they are training or helping to achieve a goal.

At the Fort Sam Houston Soldier and Family Assistance Center, a coach helps injured veterans return to civilian life in a way that respects their sacrifices and honors their rights to live full, productive lives.

Jerome Studivant Jr. manages the Recovery and Employment Assistance Lifelines program, or REALifelines. He provides one-on-one assistance during the transition process, especially at the start when identifying barriers and devising solutions that are critical to ensure a smooth return to success for service members.

REALifelines provides wounded and injured service members returning from Iraq and Afghanistan with resources they need to transition to another rewarding career. The program is part of the Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training Service.

Studivant said communication with the veterans is important.

"The key is to talk to the service members early in their transition, identifying any barriers to employment and devising whatever solutions are needed before they are actually handed their discharge papers," he said.

Studivant has worked with the SFAC since it opened in January, and

he is employed by the Texas Veterans Commission.

"Jerome has been an excellent SFAC asset who goes well beyond the extra mile to assist the Warriors in Transition with Texas Veteran Commission info and employment opportunities," said SFAC Director Charles O'Leary.

Studivant was recognized as the Texas Outstanding Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialist for 2008. Subsequent to that, he was selected as the National Outstanding Disabled Veteran's Outreach Program Specialist for 2008. The awards were sponsored by the Disabled American Veterans organization of Washington, D.C.

"This is one of the most rewarding things I have ever done in my life," Studivant said. "To be recognized by the state was already an honor, but then to be recognized nationally was an even bigger honor."

The Fort Sam Houston SFAC REALifelines program has been called a model program. Recently the Secretary of Labor, the Honorable Elaine Chao, and the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans Employment visited to see Studivant's program.

In a speech at BAMC, Chao said, "Employment is the dominant concern of most service members re-entering civilian life. This is particularly true of our wounded, ill and injured service members returning from the Global War on Terror."

The Labor Department has a close part-

nership with Brooke Army Medical Center. The Army has provided Studivant with an office inside the SFAC. Case managers simply walk down the hall to connect job-seeking Soldiers and their Families with employment assistance.

REALifelines is run by federal and state employees, who are assigned at many of the major treatment facilities and Warrior Transition Units. REALifelines employment specialists conduct employment assessments with wounded and injured service members as they become stabilized at Medical Treatment Facilities and WTUs.

The care does not end there. The Department of Labor follows up with the veterans back to their hometowns and helps them get good jobs. It also helps service member's spouses and caregivers to find good employment. The department has helped address the employment issues of nearly 7,000 wounded and injured service members and their Families.



Charles O'Leary, director, Soldier and Family Assistance Center; Jerome Studivant Jr., Texas Veterans Commission and REALifeline Program for the Department of Labor; and Col. Mary Garr, commander, U.S. Army Garrison, display Studivant's plaque as the 2008 National Outstanding Disabled Veterans Outreach Program Specialist.

The REALifelines program, which originated in 2004 at seven major military hospitals in the United States, is expanding to Fort Hood, Texas, and Fort Bliss, Texas.

For more information about REALifelines or assistance identifying transferable skills, call Studivant at the Texas Veterans Commission at 916-9368.

Snapshots of everyday heroes



Photo by Jayne Hatton

Jennifer Graham, government, economics and sociology teacher, discusses the use of sociology to understand global issues and responses to real-world problems Monday with juniors and seniors at the Robert G. Cole High School.



Spc. Anastacio Rivera fills a prescription Monday for Susan JuVette at the Satellite Pharmacy here. Rivera, a pharmacy technician, said he enjoys helping patients get the prescriptions they need. "I really enjoy helping retirees. I feel like I'm returning a favor," he said.



Photo by Jeff Crawley

Engineering equipment operator Javier Aguilar drives a front end loader at the Directorate of Public Works' stockpile yard Tuesday off Garden Avenue. Aguilar has worked at the Roads and Grounds Section of the Operations and Maintenance Division of DPW for one year. He said the best part of his job is meeting different people.



Aaron Franklin, Walden Security, checks pedestrian Richard Allen's ID card Monday at the Wilson Gate. Walden Security officers provide security at all 13 of Fort Sam Houston's access control points.



Bessie Scott, site and security manager, ID Card Section, takes a fingerprint reading from Patricia Arzola so she can issue Arzola a new ID card Monday at the In and Out Processing Center. "I love customer service," Scott said. "I love to work with Soldiers and all of my customers."



Desk Officer Eric Murberg responds to a question from customer Michelle Aguilar at the Fort Sam Houston Police Department. Desk officers man the front desk at the police station 24/7 and serve as the first stop for community members wanting to file a complaint. They also provide direction of patrols. "This position never closes; it's the focal point of police operations," said Ray Acuna, Provost Marshal Office.



Capt. Jabari White leans on a therapy table as burn therapist Alicia White works on flexing his arm. The Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center, at Brooke Army Medical Center, is the only one of its kind in the Department of Defense and has a worldwide reputation for its care of burn patients.



Capt. Adam Martinez, Fort Sam Houston Fire and Emergency Services, inspects a car seat for Firefighter Daniel Cobb at the fire department. Firefighters not only provide emergency services for the post, but help the community through fire-prevention programs and car-seat inspections.



Freddy Hood, afternoon kitchen supervisor, stirs a vat of sauce for a sweet-and-sour pork dish Monday while Assistant Manager Ronald Hancock looks on at the Rocco Dining Facility. "It's our job to make sure the food is out on time, top quality and eye-appealing," said Hood, who has been cooking at Fort Sam Houston for 16 years.



Photo by Jen Rodriguez

Alfonso Gonzales, warehouse supervisor for the Brooke Army Medical Center Dining Facility, keeps tabs on the stock of paper goods available for each meal. Gonzales, who has worked at BAMC for nearly 30 years, is responsible for ordering all food, produce, paper goods and equipment in support of the dining facility.

Salute to Fort Sam's workers

Story and photos by Elaine Wilson
Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

boy, so I'll spend time with my daughter and her family," she said.

Americans set aside a day each year to pay tribute to the nation's workers, and the contributions they have made to the strength and well-being of the nation.

For others throughout post, the holiday will not signify a day off; it will simply mark the start of another work week.

The holiday dates back to Sept. 5, 1882, when the Central Labor Union celebrated the first Labor Day with a demonstration and picnic in New York City.

On Monday, Soldiers will pull staff duty at the barracks, dining facility cooks and servers will don their aprons and open facility doors, security officers will stand sentry at the post entry points, and Brooke Army Medical Center health care workers will continue their round-the-clock quality care for wounded warriors and other hospital patients.

Since that time, Americans have celebrated Labor Day with parades, barbecues and long weekends away from the stresses of work and household chores.

"We're the first line of defense against terrorism," said Security Officer Aaron Franklin, from Walden Security. "We understand the importance of protecting this installation."

For most workers at Fort Sam Houston, Labor Day will equate to a well-deserved day off from work. The normally bustling ID card sections, child-care facilities, schools and training facilities will be unnaturally quiet as employees clock out for the day.

Thousands of miles away, in far-off places like Iraq and Afghanistan, service members will wake to another long day where their lives are on the line, and their families are ever-present on their minds.

"This office is very busy and when we get a day off we enjoy it," said Bessie Scott, site and security manager, ID Card Section. "We have a great staff and supervisors."

Whether standing post in Iraq, on staff duty at Fort Sam Houston or off duty at home, all Department of Defense employees deserve a salute and the heartfelt gratitude of our nation.

Scott said she plans to relax and spend time with her family over the holiday weekend.

"I just became a new grandmother, a beautiful baby

Fort Sam Houston ISD celebrates dedication of four new facilities

By Jayne Hatton
Fort Sam Houston Independent School District

Fort Sam Houston Independent School District students, staff and community celebrated the completion of four new facilities at a dedication ceremony Tuesday.

The ceremony began at the Robert G. Cole Middle School, included a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Anne S. Kiehle Technology Center, and concluded with tours of the Robert G. Cole Media Center and Gymnasium.

Dr. Gail Siller, FSHISD superintendent, welcomed special guests and recognized student participation in the dedication ceremony. During her remarks she described the four buildings as an inviting place for students to learn.

Robert G. Cole Middle School, a two-story, L-shaped building includes 34,882 square feet of space for 12 classrooms,

computer lab, large mall area, conference room and administrative offices.

The Anne S. Kiehle Technology Center has 5,682 square feet of space dedicated to ensuring that the district's technological infrastructure and instructional training needs are met.

The Robert G. Cole Media Center, serving both middle and high school students, houses a media collection room, career center, computer laboratory, classroom, student-study area and librarian's office in 9,411 square feet.

The Robert G. Cole Gymnasium seats 1,200 Cole Cougar fans in 20,534 square feet and contains a spacious foyer, concession area, weight room and storage areas. Adjacent to the gymnasium is a new field house containing locker rooms, coaches' offices, film room and equipment needs.

U.S. Congressman Lamar Smith spoke at the dedication ceremony.



Representatives from the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District and post community cut the ribbon Tuesday for the Kiehle Technology Center, which was named in recognition of former elementary principal and FSHISD superintendent, Dr. Anne Kiehle.

See DEDICATION P19

Fort Sam Houston Independent School District
Weekly Campus Activities
Sept. 1 to 6

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School
Sept. 1
Labor Day/school holiday
Sept. 4
Parent Orientation Day held during your child's grade-level conference time
Sept. 5
Spirit Day

Robert G. Cole Middle/High School
Sept. 1
Labor Day/school holiday
Sept. 3
Cole Senior Parent Salad/Potluck, 5 to 6:30 p.m.
Open House in Cole gym, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 4
Junior varsity football at St. Anthony, 5 p.m.
Sept. 5
Band potluck dinner in cafeteria, 5:30 p.m.
Varsity football vs. St. Anthony, 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 6
Varsity volleyball tournament at Utopia, TBA

DEDICATION from P18

"To continue as a productive nation we have to provide young people with the education and technical skills to compete in the global market," he said. "The dedication of these buildings reflects the commitment to provide a quality education in the best facilities possible."

Smith has provided critical support of the federal Impact Aid program, which helps fund schools impacted by federal government presence.

Former superintendent, Dr. Anne Kiehle, was honored at the dedication ceremony. Kiehle has a distinguished 37-year career in education, most notably as the former principal of Fort Sam Houston Elementary School and Fort Sam Houston ISD superintendent. Kiehle initially led the charge for a facilities study that resulted in the development of a long-range facilities plan, which included all four buildings dedicated.

At a ribbon-cutting ceremony dedicating the technology center in her name, Kiehle described the develop-

ment of teacher-leader teams blazing a trail to use technology as a tool to enrich and enhance instruction.

"Teacher training continues to be the best way to provide students with a quality technological experience in schools," she said.

Several students took part in the dedication ceremony. Breanna Andrews, Cole senior, opened the ceremony by singing the selection, "One Moment in Time," and Taqueria Weary led the audience in reciting the Pledge to the American flag.

Members of the Robert G. Cole Color Guard Colby Register, Corey Liker, Kayla Barber and Shelby Tallent; and Junior ROTC members Matt Prasek, Joe Kauffman, Stephanie Aviles, Carlton Hogan, James Jones, Kayanna Wade, Brittani Hatch, Ashley Erikson, Robert Loveless, Richard Well, Kerra Rockword, Elisha Harris, Derek Wiersma and Ryan Brock provided assistance throughout the event.

"The program would not have been complete without student participation," said Cole Principal Isabell Clayton.

Teacher prep

Tonya Hyde, Fort Sam Houston Elementary principal, discusses CSCOPE, the district's new online curriculum system, with Cole teachers Kim Chandio and Angela Knight.



Photos by Jayne Hatton



Kathy Williams, representing the Military Impacted Schools Association, speaks with elementary staff from Fort Sam Houston Independent School District, Randolph Field ISD and Lackland ISD about the needs of military Families and support available through several organizations. Elementary staff met at Lackland ISD Aug. 20 while middle and high school staff met at Randolph Field.

COMMUNITY from P14

prepared press releases to inform his community about his project.

Hosted by Kroger stores, Michael organized several collection drives in two weekends. Donors had the opportunity to buy prepackaged grocery bags at \$15 or \$20. Some decided to give cash. Michael said one lady came up and handed him a \$500 check. His most memorable donation was a little girl who emptied her piggy bank.

Michael said he wasn't surprised at the outpouring of commitment from his community. Organizations such as Military Officers Association of America, the Order of the

"It is a pleasure to see our young folks taking care of our Soldiers and their Families."

*Inge Godfrey
Manager for the Fisher Houses*

Purple Heart and the Air Force Sergeants Association came forward with support.

"This shows how much they care about the Soldiers," Michael said.

Michael plans to enter Trinity University in San Antonio this fall with a major in International Studies with the focus in the Middle East as well as business administration.

"When it comes down to it, it was the community's love

for its nation's military that made this the success it was," Michael said.

With the completion of the project, Michael is one step closer to becoming an Eagle Scout.

Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in Boy Scouts of America. Part of the requirements to attain the rank is to complete a service project that demonstrates leadership and commitment to duty.

Don't forget dental check-ups



Families with school-age children are busy preparing for another school year. Along with supplies, parents should not forget to put a dental check-up on their to-do list. A dental exam can prevent time lost from classes. A toothache can create an unplanned dental emergency which could lead to a student being absent from school. A professional fluoride treatment and sealants are essential to prevent cavities. A healthy mouth will lead to a healthy smile and a more confident, happy child.



Cash and Carry Sale

The next MWR Cash and Carry Sale will be held Sept. 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Building 4192, Bay A on Wilson Road. The event is conducted on a first-come, first-served basis. Cash and personal checks with picture ID are acceptable forms of payment. All property must be removed from the warehouse at the time of the sale. All sales are final. Property is sold as is, where is. The following used items are available: TV armoires, desk chairs, wall mirrors, wall-mount headboards, VCRs, computer desks with hutches, recliners, lounge chairs with

ottomans, executive chairs, used golf clubs and bags, 7.2-cubic refrigerators, small replica furniture items from the post Child Development Center and more. There is no prior viewing of property. For more information, call 221-4449 or 221-4950.

Recreation and Leisure

Aquatic Center hours

The Aquatic Center is available for lap swimming through Aug. 29 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and for open swimming from 4 to 8 p.m. It will also be available for open swimming Aug. 30 and 31 from noon to 8 p.m. Sept. 1, Labor Day, will be the last day the Aquatic Center is open for the season. Hours for Labor Day will be from noon to 8 p.m. For more information, call 221-1234.

5K Fitness Run/Walk

A 5K Fitness Run/Walk will be

held Aug. 30 at 9 a.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. The event is free and open to the public. T-shirts are \$10 at the event. For more information, call 221-1234.

Bowling Leagues

Sign up now to participate in the fall bowling leagues at the Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center. Fall leagues begin in September. For more information on leagues, call 221-4740.

Bowling Center hours

The Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center has new hours through the beginning of September. The facility will be open Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Thursdays from 1 to 9 p.m., Fridays from 5 p.m. to 12 a.m., Saturdays from 1 to 10 p.m., Sundays from 2 to 8 p.m. and closed Mondays and Tuesdays. For more information, call 221-4740.

National Bowling Week

The Fort Sam Houston Bowling Center celebrates National Bowling

Week through Aug. 30 with a variety of activities and prizes. Retiree Night will be held Aug. 28; retirees can bowl for \$1 each. Ladies' Night will be held Aug. 29 from 5 to 9 p.m. The first 100 women bowlers get one scratch-off card each. Close out National Bowling Week with a Back-to-School Bowling Bash Aug. 30. Each scratch-off card guarantees a prize. For more information, call 221-4740.

Bench press contest

MWR will hold a bench press contest Sept. 27 at 10:40 a.m. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center. Weigh-in is from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. The entry fee is \$20 and includes a T-shirt for all participants. For more information, call 221-1234.

2008 Club Championship

The Fort Sam Houston Golf Club will conduct its annual Club Championship Sept. 27 and 28. This 36-hole stroke play event is open to all members, active-duty military, Family members, Department of Defense employees and contractors assigned to Fort Sam Houston. The event will be played on the newly renovated La Loma Grande and Salado Del Rio courses, with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. both days. The Club Championship will be flighted by handicaps and will have a Championship Flight, Open Flight, Seniors, Super-Seniors, Ladies and Junior Flights. Golfers interested in competing may register in their respective flights in the Golf Course Pro Shop now through Sept. 25 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The registration fee is \$35 for members and \$60 for non-members. This includes green fees, if applicable, prizes and an

awards banquet following the tournament. For more information, call 222-9386.

Dining and Entertainment

MWR Ticket Office

Go to the ticket office at the Sam Houston Club for discounts on summer fun. The summer hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and closed Sunday and Monday. Come by for discount tickets on local and out-of-state events. For more information, visit www.footsamhoustonmwr.com or call 226-1663 or 224-2721.

Sam Houston Club

Latin Night

Spice up your weekend with Latin Night Aug. 30 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Sam Houston Club. Cover is \$7 per person or \$10 per couple. Come groove to the rhythms of the Latin band The Latin Four. Stop by for drink and draft specials. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. with no cover until 9 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres will be served from 10:30 to 11:30 p.m. Patrons 18 years and older are welcome, but must be 21 years old to buy or consume alcohol. The dress code is casual attire: no hats, athletic attire, shorts or T-shirts are allowed. For more information, call 224-2721 or 221-2722.

Lunch at Sam Houston Club

Stop by the Sam Houston Club during the week for lunch. The club offers a buffet-style lunch Tuesdays through Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost is \$6.95 for members

See MWR P22

MWR from P21

and \$7.95 for non-members. The meal includes a beverage, deluxe salad bar, soup and dessert. For more information on menus, check out the Sam Houston Club page on the MWR Web site at www.fortsam-houstonmwr.com or call 221-2721.

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.

Army Community Service**AFTB Level III class**

Army Community Service Army Family Team Building will offer the AFTB Level III class Sept. 8 to 10 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at ACS, in training room 3, Building 2797 on Stanley Road. AFTB Level III is designed to enhance professional and leadership growth opportunities. Students will cover topics such as understanding needs, leadership styles, leader-assisted problem solving, meeting management and much more. For more information or to register, call

Emmy Elliott at 221-1587 or e-mail emmy.elliott@conus.army.mil.

Blended Families

The Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program will offer a class for blended families Sept. 9 and 16 from 11 a.m. to noon at the Red Cross, Building 2650. The class covers the challenges of combining two families into one. Discussion topics include discipline, financial responsibilities, and co-parenting issues and concerns. To sign up or for more information, call 221-0349 or e-mail thelma.t.kegley@us.army.mil.

Deployment and Related Parenting Challenges

Family members of deployed Soldiers encounter many challenges and Army Community Service offers help to the military spouses left behind. The Deployment and Related Parenting Challenges offers ways to maintain a normal routine, provide children with reassurance and improve parenting skills during the separation. The class will be held Sept. 17 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Red Cross, Building 2650. To sign up or for more information, call 221-0349 or e-mail thelma.t.kegley@us.army.mil.

AFTB instructor training

Army Community Service Army Family Team Building will offer the AFTB Instructor Trainer Course Sept. 17 and 18 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Sept. 19 from 9 a.m. to noon at ACS, Building 2797 on Stanley Road. The three-day course is designed to enhance presentation, organization and planning skills. Classes include Speaking on Your Feet, Planning Process, Methods of Instruction, Instructional Aids and more. For more information or to register, call Emmy Elliott at 221-1587 or e-mail emmy.elliott@conus.army.mil.

Federal resume class

A federal resume-writing class will be held Sept. 19 from 9 a.m. to noon at Army Community Service, Building 2797 on Stanley Road, for retirees, active duty, Family members and federal employees wanting to update their resume. The class will be held monthly at ACS. For more information or to register for the class, call Pam Belanger at 221-0516.

Negotiating Conflict

The Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program will hold a class in dealing with difficult people Sept. 23 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Red Cross, Building 2650. Learn how difficult people think, what they fear and why they behave as they do. This negotiating conflict class will help people reduce anxiety and stress in difficult relationships. To sign up or for more information, call 221-0349 or e-mail thelma.t.kegley@us.army.mil.

Child and Youth Services**Part-day preschool registration**

Registration for part-day preschool runs through Sept. 5 at

See MWR P23

MWR from P22

Central Registration, in Building 2797 on Stanley Road. Two sessions are available. Session one is Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. Session two is Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Each session is limited to 22 children. Children must be between the ages of 3 and 5, toilet-trained, and not participating in a school district program. Orientation for the preschool program is Sept. 3 at 9 a.m. at Child and Youth Services/Parent Child Incorporated, Building 1720. The program begins Sept. 8. To register or for more information, call 221-1723 or 221-4871.

Parent Advisory Council

A Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Council meeting will be held Sept. 16 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 CYS

patrons are encouraged to attend. PAC meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month. For more information, call 221-4871 or 221-1723.

ACT/SAT preparation

Free ACT and SAT Power-Prep software are available to all active-duty military, veterans and their Family members. Visit www.eknowledge.com/military. For more information, call 221-2214.

Central Registration

Central Registration is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Building 2797 on Stanley Road. Walk-ins and appointments are welcome; patrons are seen after 4 p.m. by appointment only. To register for Child and Youth Services programs, patrons must provide a current shot record for students in kindergarten through fifth grade, two local emergency designees with addresses and telephone numbers, a health assessment/sport physical within the last year that is valid for the entire sea-

son, required Social Security numbers from all Family members, sponsor's Leave and Earnings Statement, spouse's W2 form and activity fee. For more information, call 221-1723 or 221-4871.

Army Child Care in Your Neighborhood

Army Child Care in Your Neighborhood care options provide parents and guardians the same peace of mind as Family Child Care and the Child Development Center. Participants in the ACCYN program must meet standards comparable to those required in on-post care, which includes ongoing training for various national accreditations and credentials. For more information on ACCYN, call Central Registration at 221-4871 or 221-1723 or visit www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com.

SKIES

The Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills offers instructional programs for youth in step and hip hop dance, hitting and pitching, martial arts,

tennis and piano. Upcoming fall classes include: cooking, drivers' education, gymnastics (tumbling), tutoring, football and basketball camps, and drum lessons. For more information, call 221-4871 or 471-9548.

Helpful information

The Garrison School Liaison Services Office is available to help make transitions for youth in school as trouble-free as possible. Visit www.fortsamhoustonmwr.com and check out the School Liaison Services page for a list of Web sites that contain helpful information for transitioning military Families. For more information, call 295-4806 or 221-2214.

Volunteers for youth sports

Anyone interested in volunteering for youth sports can contact the Youth Sports Program at 221-5513 or 221-3502 or Central Registration at 221-1725 for more information on the registration process. Background checks are required.

Religion**PWOC fall kick off**

The Fort Sam Houston Protestant Women of the Chapel will hold their fall kick off event Sept. 3 at 9:30 a.m. at Dodd Field Chapel. Fort Sam Houston women are invited to attend and enjoy fellowship, singing, Bible studies and refreshments. Free childcare will be available for children up to age 5. Evening classes are available Thursdays. For more information, call 462-7676.

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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 or fax to 221-1198. Freebies run for one week unless the submitter calls to renew. Limit of five items per entry. For more information, call 221-0546.

For Sale: Golf clubs, 3-9 pitching wedge and 1-3-5 woods, \$135 and \$165; HAM radio, \$150; one receiver, \$125; two golf bags, \$20 and \$30. Call 227-6590 or 414-8265.

For Sale: Smith and Wesson semi-automatic pistol, model SW357V, interchangeable barrels for .40 and .357 Sig, includes two magazines, like new, \$300 obo. Call Mike at 837-3142.

For Sale: Burberry Nova Check, small hobo tote with strap and dust jacket, 9 inches wide by 6 inches high by 2.5 inches deep, \$175; three-tier diaper cake, blue, \$30; James Avery "Lord watch between ..." pendant set, \$35; wood-grain wall-unit entertainment center, 6 feet high by

5 feet wide by 17 inches wide, \$150; Big Boy recliner, mauve, \$40. Call Toni at 550-4680.

For Sale: 2003 Range Rover truck, automatic, 5K miles, \$35,000. Call 445-7729.

For Sale: Programmable Honeywell digistat thermostat for home a/c, \$30. Call 221-3549.

For Sale: Whirlpool dryer, \$75; Whirlpool dishwasher, \$250; Whirlpool stove, \$250. Call 915-545-3748, leave a message.

For Sale: Five kittens, vaccinated, one tortoise-shell female and four males, one Siamese, two black-and-white, one black. Call Gina at 945-8506 or 630-835-7959.

For Sale: Coca-Cola memorabilia, an old-fashioned Coca-Cola can lying on its side with the old pop top, price negotiable. Call 860-3781.

For Sale: Razor scooter, two-seat, pink, new, \$125. Call 464-6761.

For Sale: Dog kennel, 10 feet long by 5 feet wide by 6 feet high, \$125; electric wheel chair, thumb driven, brand new, \$1,300. Call Clyde at 290-8472.

Community

Events

Back-To-School Essay Contest

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is offering aspiring young writers an opportunity to win great prizes. The Back-To-School Essay Contest will give students in first through 12th grades the opportunity to submit an essay of 200 words or less on "What AAFES means to me and my Family." The essay contest will run through Aug. 31. First-place winners in each category will receive a computer; second-place winners will be awarded a \$500 savings bond; and third-place winners a \$200 savings bond. For more information, visit www.aafes.com under the Patriot Family Connection link.

Community Development Summit

The 2008 Community Development Summit will be held Sept. 15 and 16 from 7:45 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sept. 17 from 7:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio. The cost is \$100 for all three days, which includes three continental breakfasts and luncheons and two evening receptions. Single-day registration is available for \$50, which includes lunch, evening reception if applicable, and admission to all sessions during that day. Parking is provided free at the Alamodome with shuttle service to the convention center. For more information, visit http://www.sanantonio.gov/planning/cd_08summit.asp.

Nominations for Military Spouse of the Year

Military Spouse Magazine is seeking nominations for the 2009 Military Spouse of the Year Award sponsored by USAA. Nominees must be the spouse of a current member of the U.S. Armed Forces. The criteria for selection includes: impact on community change, volunteerism, personal sacrifice, education, career pursuits and other military spouse-related efforts. The MSM encourages individuals to submit a nomination for themselves or an eligible nominee. Nominations will be accepted through Oct. 8. For more information, call 703-288-8684. To submit a nomination,

visit www.msoy.milspouse.com.

MOAA-AC Oktoberfest Picnic

The Military Officers Association of America-Alamo Chapter will hold its annual Oktoberfest Picnic Sept. 24 at Eberle Park, Randolph Air Force Base. Rennie Guenther and Company will provide the entertainment and The Bavarian Haus Restaurant will cater the event. The cost is \$20 per person. Reservations are due by Sept. 22 at noon. For more information, call 228-9955 or e-mail moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net.

Craft fair

The 18th Annual Holly Days Craft Fair will be held Oct. 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church, 16245 Nacogdoches Road. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 651-6871.

Training

AKO Training

There will be a hands-on training on Army Knowledge Online Aug. 28 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Willis Hall, Building 2841, Room 2105C. Forms in AKO Forms Management Content Program training will include AKO hands-on training pre-requisite, leave form templates, uploading local forms from the Army Medical Department server, renaming forms, digital signatures, sending a form as an original, locating additional computer basic training within AKO and much more. Seats are limited and individuals must bring their common access card for training. For more information, call 221-6203. To register for training or reserve a seat, e-mail Julie.Gueller@amedd.army.mil.

Army e-Learning Program

The Army e-Learning Program has 30 Rosetta Stone foreign language courses and 2,600 other courses available, to include new course content on Lean Six Sigma. The Army has included the Books 24/7 features that provides a user more than 4,000 business professional titles, over 6,000 titles in IT Pro and nearly 350 in-office essentials. All reference books are free to authorized users. For more information, call Julie Gueller at 221-6203.