



A PUBLICATION OF THE 502nd AIR BASE WING – JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO – FORT SAM HOUSTON

ECMO medical team achieves cutting-edge patient transfer

By Elaine Sanchez
 Brooke Army Medical Center
 Public Affairs

Marking a first for military medical care in the United States, an Army and Air Force team successfully transported a critically ill woman on a form of heart-lung bypass from the San Antonio Military Medical Center to New York City last month.

This mission marked the military's first stateside transport of an adult patient on extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, or ECMO, noted Air Force Lt. Col. (Dr.) Jeremy Cannon, the SAMMC

chief of Trauma.

ECMO is a heart-lung bypass system that offers a life-saving capability for patients who aren't doing well on a ventilator, he explained.

While the technology has been used to aid ill infants and pediatric patients for about 30 years, it's only recently been shown to have lifesaving capabilities for adults, Cannon noted.

This case involved a woman in her early 30s with cystic fibrosis. She had developed viral and bacterial pneumonia that made her "incredibly ill to the point where she could no longer be safely managed on a ventila-

tor," the doctor recalled.

After stabilizing this young mother of two, who is also the wife of an active-duty Army recruiter, on ECMO, the trauma chief called on the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Flight Team and the hospital's ECMO team, as well as the 59th Medical Wing's Critical Care Air Transport Team to evacuate her to a center with expertise in using ECMO as a bridge to a lung transplant.

This mission creatively brought together a group of Army and Air Force physi-

See ECMO, P6



Photos by Staff Sgt. Kevin Iinuma

Members of the 59th Medical Wing Aeromedical Staging Facility transfer a patient being treated with an extracorporeal membrane oxygenation system into a C-17 Globemaster III at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Jan. 16. ECMO is a heart-lung bypass system that circulates blood through an external artificial lung and sends it back into the patient's bloodstream.

470th MI Brigade Soldier named Army's top language professional



Photo by Gregory Rippes

Sgt. Ruben Costea, a member of the 717th Military Intelligence Battalion, grew up near the border of Transylvania, which is a part of modern-day Romania.

By Gregory Rippes
 470th MIB Public Affairs

For the second year in a row, the U.S. Army has recognized a Soldier from the 470th Military Intelligence Brigade as its Language Professional of the Year.

Sgt. Ruben Costea, a member of the 717th MI Battalion, won at battalion, brigade and the Intelligence and Security Command level before taking top honors at the Army competition.

Now he competes with

linguists of the other military services for the title at Department of Defense.

Costea looks forward to attending the Army's recognition ceremony; he missed the INSCOM ceremony because he was deployed overseas.

Another battalion member initially accepted the INSCOM presentations on Costea's behalf, until Costea personally received them at the 717th MI Battalion's monthly payday activities and award assembly.

"I was deployed to Afghanistan for six months as part of our U.S. Special Operations Command support team," Costea said. "I had just completed the first step of the competition before deployment. I had to submit my other packages while 'down range.'"

The packages included essays on specified topics related to language training.

The judges evaluate these essays in addition to scores on the Defense

Language Proficiency Test – which tests speaking, listening and writing in the foreign languages – to determine competition winners.

Costea scored high in three languages: Spanish, Romanian and German. He credits his scores to an early exposure to the number of languages he encountered in his formative years.

"I was fortunate to grow

See LINGUIST, P8

Editorial Staff

JBSA/502nd Air Base Wing
Commander
Brig. Gen. Theresa C. Carter

JBSA/502nd ABW
Public Affairs Director
Todd G. White

JBSA-FSH Public Affairs Officer
Karla L. Gonzalez

Editor
Steve Elliott

Writer/Editor
Lori Newman

Layout Artist
Joe Funtanilla

News Leader office:

2080 Wilson Way
Building 247, Suite 211
Fort Sam Houston
Texas 78234-5004
210-221-2030
DSN 471-2030

News Leader Advertisements:

Prime Time
Military Newspapers
Ave E at Third Street
San Antonio, Texas 78205
(210) 250-2024

News Leader email:

usaf.jbsa.502-abw.mbx.
fsh-news-leader@mail.mil

News Leader online:

www.samhouston.army.mil/PAO

This Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of the News Leader are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government or Department of Defense. It is published weekly by the 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs Office, 2080 Wilson Way, Building 247, Suite 211, Fort Sam Houston, Texas 78234-5004; 210-221-2030, DSN 471-2030. Printed circulation is 10,000. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Director of Public Affairs. The News Leader is published by Prime Time, Inc., Military Newspapers, Ave E at Third Street, San Antonio, Texas 78205, (210) 250-2024, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. government, under exclusive written contract with the 502nd Air Base Wing and JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs Office. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the U.S. Air Force. Stories and photos for publication consideration may be e-mailed to usaf.jbsa.502-abw.mbx.fsh-news-leader@mail.mil by close of business Friday.

Same-sex couples can claim new benefits by October

By Karen Parrish
American Forces Press Service

Military members and retirees with same-sex partners will qualify for up to 24 new benefits under policy changes Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta announced Monday.

In a memo to the service chiefs outlining the new policy, Panetta noted the department has "essentially completed" repeal of the so-called "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law that barred gay and lesbian military members from serving openly.

Now, the secretary wrote to the chiefs, military leaders' work must "expand to changing our policies and practices to ensure fairness and equal treatment and to taking care of all of our service members and

their families, to the extent allowable under law."

Two of the new benefits are available at the service member's election: hospital visitation and Family Readiness Group membership.

For 22 other benefits, service members and their same-sex partners may file a "declaration of domestic partnership."

That declaration entitles same-sex partners to military identification cards, commissary and exchange shopping privileges, child care and youth programs, sexual assault counseling and other benefits.

Housing, medical and dental care, and overseas command sponsorship for same-sex partners are not included in this round of policy changes.

As Panetta noted in a

statement, those benefits are restricted under the Defense of Marriage Act, commonly known as DOMA, which defines "spouse" as someone married to a person of the opposite sex. The Supreme Court is reviewing the law, and is expected to rule on it later this year.

The secretary wrote, "In the event that the Defense of Marriage Act is no longer applicable to the Department of Defense, it will be the policy of the department to construe the words 'spouse' and 'marriage' without regard to sexual orientation, and married couples, irrespective of sexual orientation, and their dependents, will be granted full military benefits."

A senior Pentagon official emphasized in

a briefing to Pentagon reporters that benefit changes will happen as soon as possible.

Panetta's guidance to the services directed they make "every effort" to have systems in place to accept same-sex benefit requests by Aug. 31. In no case, he wrote, may the services delay beyond Oct. 1 in rolling out the benefits.

Rolling out a new benefit takes time, the official said, as regulations and instructions, systems and software all have to be updated, and workers will need to be trained in new processes.

"Normally, we're looking at a year" to make such changes, the official noted. "This is a very ambitious schedule; we're really pressing hard to do this."

Another official said

the Defense Department is working to see if the housing benefit can be added to the list and is developing a mechanism to allow burial of same-sex partners at Arlington National Cemetery. The domestic partnership declaration isn't feasible in cases where one or both partners have died, the second official added.

Retirees and their same-sex partners will be able to file the declaration once the new systems are in place. The first official estimated that 5,600 same-sex couples include an active-duty service member, 3,400 include a Reserve or National Guard member, and 8,000 include a retired military member.

The cost of implementing the new benefits, the official added, would be negligible.

DOD leaders: budget deadlock could spark readiness crisis

By Karen Parrish
American Forces Press Service

Issuing perhaps their strongest warnings yet, Pentagon leaders Feb. 3 said the budget impasse threatens to create a military readiness crisis.

Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta and Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, joined in interviews with CNN's Candy Crowley on "State of the Union"

and NBC's Chuck Todd on "Meet the Press."

The budget provision known as "sequester," set to take effect March 1 unless Congress acts, would trigger a half-trillion dollars in defense spending cuts over 10 years, beyond major spending cuts already in place over that period.

"If sequester goes into effect, and we have to do the kind of cuts that will go right at readiness, right

at maintenance, right at training, we are going to weaken the United States and make it much more difficult for us to respond to the crises in the world," Panetta said.

"We've got to plan for that possibility ... but I have to tell you, it is irresponsible for [sequester] to happen," the secretary added.

"I mean, why would members of Congress elected by the American people take a step that would badly damage our national defense, but more importantly, undermine the support for our men and women in uniform? Why would you do that?"

Dempsey noted sequester is only part of the vise closing around DOD.

Under the continuing resolution that sets government spending at

previous levels when an appropriations bill isn't passed, Pentagon spending for the fiscal year already is out of balance, he said.

"The combined effects of sequester and the continuing resolution creates a magnitude of cut in the last half of the year," Dempsey explained.

"We have to absorb \$52 billion when you count the effects of both sequestration and the continuing resolution in the last half of the year."

Panetta and Dempsey both have stated repeatedly that defense spending priorities always will be supporting troops in combat and training those next to deploy.

The chairman detailed what civilian employees can expect if sequester happens and they are furloughed.

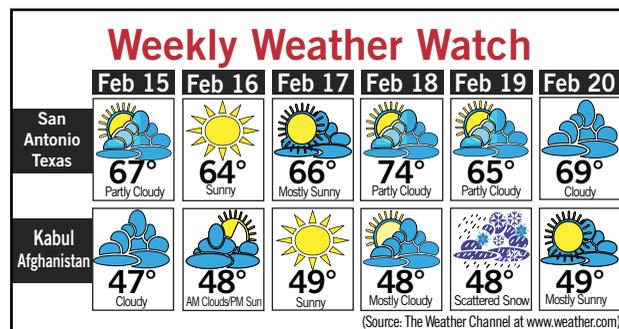
"They will lose two days per pay period, 20 percent less pay for the rest of the year," he said.

Dempsey noted that despite public perception, less than a quarter of defense civilian employees work in the Washington area.

"There's this notion that [civilian furloughs are] probably OK, because they are just a bunch of white-collar bureaucrats," he said.

But 86 percent of DOD's civilian employees "live outside of Washington, D.C., are in our schools, in our clinics, in our motor pools, in our depots, in our factories," Dempsey added.

"This will affect the entire country, and it will undermine our readiness for the next several years."



News Briefs

Schofield Road Closure

Schofield Road near the Rhoades Dental Clinic will be closed Monday through Thursday from the intersection of Schofield and Stanley Roads, continuing about 200 feet east of the intersection. Traffic traveling eastbound on Schofield Road will divert around the work zone by using the detour along Stanley Road to the south, turning left onto Henry T. Allen, then turning left again onto Scott Road to reach Schofield Road. Westbound traffic will follow the same detour route along Scott Road, Henry T. Allen and Stanley Road. Westbound motorists will also have access to local driveways leading to the Rocco Dining Facility and Building 2372 parking area. The road will be fully reopened to through traffic by 7 p.m. Thursday.

Basura Bash 2013

The 3rd Annual Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Basura Bash will be held at Salado Creek Park from 9 a.m. to noon Feb. 23, with volunteer check in at 8 a.m. and a safety briefing at 8:45 a.m. The annual cleanup of Salado Creek is held in conjunction with the city-wide cleanup effort for the tributaries of the San Antonio River. Volunteers are encouraged to wear long pants, sturdy shoes, gloves, hat and sunscreen. People can bring their own cleanup gear, such as waders, trash-grabbers, nets, etc. All participants under 18 must have a parent or guardian on site and drop-offs will not be allowed. All participants must have a military ID or CAC and sign a waiver to participate. Volunteers can register online at <http://www.basurabash.org>. For more information, call 221-4251 or 808-9624.

SAMMC Dining Renovations

The San Antonio Military Medical Center's main dining facility and Grab-n-Go will undergo renovations beginning in April. The Rucksack and the Café Express on the first level of the new tower will remain open. Several temporary dining options will be available, such as the "Market on the Green" located outside the Garden entrance. There will also be two new Grab-n-Go kiosks: "The Renovation Station" located near women's

See NEWS BRIEFS, P6

Akeroyd Blood Donor Center has big year

By Mark Salcedo
ASBP Blood Donor Recruiter

Donating blood to the Armed Services Blood Program is safe, simple and it saves lives. There is no substitute for it, and the donors around Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston know it.

Last year, a record-breaking 10,418 donors participated in 308 blood drives at the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center and mobile blood drives around the installation.

This means the blood donor center staff was able to produce 7,095 units of blood and 1,060 units of platelets for the patients at the San Antonio Military Medical Center.

"This is an outstanding achievement for the

donor center," said Maj. Warren Brown, officer-in-charge of the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center.

"The blood donor center's mission continues to be challenging year after year because we are responsible for providing blood to wounded warriors, family members, retirees and others receiving care at the San Antonio Military Medical Center. However, 2012 was a great year for the center."

According to Brown, that success was due in large part to the three medical training commands – the 32nd Medical Brigade, 937th Training Squadron and the Navy Medical Training Support Command – that provided motivation and encouragement to their Soldiers, Sailors



Photo by Mark Salcedo

Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen become "blood brothers and sisters" during their platelet donation at the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center.

and Airmen.

The recruiting and marketing team at the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center also played a key role in getting donors through the door.

"The dedication of our recruiting and marketing team was instrumental in increasing awareness and coordinating blood drives and additional platelet

donors," Brown said.

"Our collection team, which is comprised of both military members and civilians, did an

See AKEROYD, P8

470th MI Brigade program accentuates language proficiency

By Gregory Rippes
470th MIB Public Affairs

Cryptologic linguists must know a foreign language before becoming part of the 470th Military Intelligence Brigade, but they must maintain and improve their language proficiency while they are assigned to it. The brigade's Command Language Program helps to ensure that.

Aspiring Army cryptologic linguists can take a language aptitude test when they join the Army. If they score high enough, they can go on to the Defense Language Institute where they can pursue the language in courses ranging in duration

from 36 to 64 weeks.

If they attain DLI's standards, they will go on to train in other aspects of their occupational specialty; once they successfully complete this training, they will be assigned to a military intelligence unit.

"Our goal is to take Soldiers who qualify with basic language skills from DLI to a level where they can comfortably fill their intelligence mission," said David Hansen, the brigade's command language program manager.

"For Soldiers in military intelligence, language goes right up there [in importance] with all their other war-

rior task training."

Patrick Franco, Intelligence and Security Command language branch chief, recently noted, "All INSCOM missions require refined knowledge of target languages and proficiencies at or higher than the Army standard."

More than 200 linguists are currently involved in the 470th MI Brigade's language program.

Most of the students are pursuing proficiency in Spanish, Russian, Serbo-Croatian or Brazilian Portuguese with much smaller numbers studying Chinese, Korean, French or Italian. Those pursuing proficiency in Arabic languages study at one of two



Photo by Gregory Rippes

Patricia Lopez, a Spanish language instructor on contract with the 470th Military Intelligence Brigade, conducts a class with two of the brigade's Soldiers.

other installations.

Hansen, who began working with the brigade in 2003 – before it relocated from Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico, to Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam

Houston in 2004 – listed a number of ways the program works with Soldiers to help them keep and increase their language skills, from

See LANGUAGE, P20

MONTEL WILLIAMS DISHES IT OUT AT FISHER HOUSE



Photo by Robert Shields

Television talk show host Montel Williams serves lunch to wounded warrior Spc. Edwin Gonzales at the Brooke Army Medical Center Fisher House Feb. 5. Williams, Chef Claire Winslow, Chef Debroh Darun and a group of volunteers prepared more than 250 meals and served lunch to wounded warriors, their families and staff. Williams is a trustee of the Fisher House Foundation, Inc., and regularly visits Fisher Houses around the country to prepare meals for the wounded warriors and their families.

Air Force Medical Service announces annual award winners

The Air Force Surgeon General's Medical Force Development Directorate announced the winners of the Air Force Medical Service Annual Award competition Feb. 5. Fifteen individual and team

awards went to Joint Base San Antonio.

The competition included individual and team awards, based on criteria outlined in Air Force Instruction 36-2856, "Medical Service Awards."

The winners are a

broad cross-section of every Air Force major command and medical career field. Their accomplishments include patient care in Afghanistan and other forward-deployed locations, world-class research and teach-

ing, improvement of home station medical care, and outstanding oversight of the medical Personnel Reliability Program.

(Courtesy of the Air Force Surgeon General Office)

AFMS WINNERS FOR JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

USAF Young Healthcare Administrator of the Year Award:

Capt. Joshua D. Peter
359th Medical Group, JBSA-Randolph

**Outstanding Civilian of the Year-
MSC Civilian:**

Timothy Valladares
59th Medical Operations Group
JBSA-Lackland.

USAF Biomedical Specialist Category II Officer of the Year-Company Grade Category:

Capt. Kaelin J. Armstrong
559th Aerospace Medicine Squadron
JBSA-Lackland.

Dental Educator of the Year:

Maj. Scott F. Gruwell, 59th Dental Group
JBSA-Lackland.

Outstanding Mental Health

Airman of the Year:

Senior Airman Casey L. Anderson
59th Medical Operations Group
JBSA-Lackland.

Outstanding Biomedical Equipment Repair NCO of the Year:

Tech. Sgt. Christopher J. Gage
59th Medical Logistics and Readiness Squadron, JBSA-Lackland.

Outstanding Diet Therapy NCO of the Year:

Tech. Sgt. Tiffany C. Patterson
59th Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron
JBSA-Lackland

USAF Surgical Service NCO of the Year Award:

Tech. Sgt. Brianna L. Hunt
383rd Training Squadron
JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

USAF Pharmacy Technician

NCO of the Year Award:

Tech. Sgt. Karen F. Stegall
59th Pharmacy Squadron, JBSA-Lackland.

Outstanding Air Force Diagnostic

Imaging Technologist NCO of the Year:

Tech. Sgt. Kris R. Robertson
59th Medical Operations Group
JBSA-Lackland.

USAF Ophthalmic Airman of the Year Award:

Senior Airman Pricious M. Dongon
59th Medical Operations Group
JBSA-Lackland.

USAF Clinical Excellence in Nursing Award, Company Grade Office Category:

Capt Michael A. Pomager Jr.
59th Medical Operations Group
JBSA-Lackland.

USAF Outstanding Excellence in Nursing Leadership Award:

Lt. Col. Patricia I. John
359th Medical Group, JBSA-Randolph.

Outstanding Medical Readiness Team Award:

59th Medical Logistics and Readiness Squadron/SGSKX
JBSA-Lackland.

USAF Outstanding Patient Centered Medical Home Award:

359th Medical Group Family Health Clinic
JBSA-Randolph.

VISIT THE NEWS LEADER ONLINE: [HTTP://WWW.JBSA.AF.MIL](http://www.jbsa.af.mil)
OR [HTTP://WWW.SAMHOUSTON.ARMY.MIL/PAO](http://www.samhouston.army.mil/pao)

News Briefs

from P3

health clinic and "The Salad Stop," located between the pharmacy and laboratory.

Army Dental Corps Birthday Ball

The U.S. Army Dental Corps Birthday Ball takes place at 6 p.m. Feb. 23 at the Double Tree Hilton, 502 W. Cesar E. Chavez. Cost is \$65 per person and reservations should be made by Feb. 14. Call 221-0823 for more information.

Claims Office Self-Service Kiosk

The Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Claims Office has installed a self-service kiosk at its location in Building 153 on Wilson Way. The desktop terminal is for any service member, Army civilian or family member needing assistance in submitting their claim online via the Defense Property System website. For more information, call 221-2161/1973 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays.

Spouse's Club scholarships

Applications for the Spouses' Club of the Fort Sam Houston Area college scholarships are being accepted. The Spouses' Club will award scholarship funds for the 2013-2014 academic year to select students with military affiliation to assist them with college expenses. Graduating high school students, dependent undergraduate students continuing their education and spouses who are current members of the Spouses' Club of the Fort Sam Houston Area as of Dec. 1, 2012 are eligible to apply. Applications need to be postmarked no later than Feb. 28. For more information, go to the "Scholarship" area at <http://www.scfsh.com>

Large Troop Formations in METC Campus Area

Motorists on Garden Street in the Medical Education and Training Campus area can expect large troop movements during meal times. Motorists are advised to expect delays and avoid the area if possible as troop formations head to the new DFAC for meals. In the near future, the Schofield Road access control point will be moving back near the railroad tracks and will open up other routes around the METC campus.

502nd ABW hosts Texas Legislative Day

By Marilyn C. Holliday
502nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Senior leaders from the 502nd Air Base Wing hosted the wing's first Texas Legislative Day Feb. 8 at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis.

The event included a day-long immersion tour that included a JBSA mission briefing and briefings and demonstrations at Combined Arms Collective Training Facilities, Combat Casualty Care Course, reconfigurable Vehicle Tactical Trainer, HMMWV Egress Assistance Trainer and the Small Arms Ranges.

"This event is an opportunity for us to show the capability that's here at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis to the Texas legislators," said Brig. Gen. Theresa Carter, Joint Base San Antonio and 502nd Air Base Wing commander.

"This day allows us to feature the tremendous capability that's out here with respect to training, be it medical training, security forces training or the wide variety of training



Photo by Joel Martinez

for personnel from all our military services. It is a phenomenal capability and it provides a critical training location for our military medics." State senators and repre-

sentatives attending were: Senators Leticia Van De Putte and Donna Campbell and Representatives Lyle Larson, Joe Deshotel, Nicole Collier, Ken King and Philip Cortez.

Nearly two years of hard work and preparation paid off that night, the doctor said, noting the patient "definitely wouldn't have made it without ECMO."

This patient is the third adult to be placed on ECMO at SAMMC. The first patient, also a young mother, was on this therapy for 23 days while her lungs healed from an autoimmune reaction. She's now back home with her family and doing well, Cannon said.

Cannon said he has high hopes for BAMC's ECMO program, particularly for wounded warriors critically injured in theater. He'd like to see ECMO patients transported directly from the battlefield to SAMMC, where they can receive state-of-the-art trauma and ECMO care.

"The idea would be to rendezvous in Germany and bring patients back to SAMMC

"I think it's very important that elected officials in city, county and state all come to Camp Bullis and see what exactly they're doing and how they're training America's heroes to go and fight for us and how much of the training actually starts here in Bexar County at Camp Bullis," Rep. Philip Cortez, said.

"Ultimately they're protecting our country and we need to make sure that they have the proper training facilities and we're proud to have them here in Bexar County."

JBSA-Camp Bullis is about 28,000 acres of land and was originally purchased and designated as Camp Bullis Sept. 17, 1917. Numerous units were organized and stationed at Camp Bullis in support of World War I.

"Camp Bullis is part of what makes Joint Base San Antonio a national asset," said Army Col. John Lamoureux, 502nd Mission Support Group. "The training that we're demonstrating for our guests is the same training that provides realistic scenarios for our services' men and women to prepare them for deployment."

for ongoing care even while on ECMO," he said.

The doctor's vision is for BAMC, and San Antonio, to become Department of Defense's extracorporeal life support epicenter – for beneficiaries and combat wounded.

"It's an amazing capability, and we're just tapping into the tip of the iceberg," he added. "ECMO offers us untold potential to intervene in situations that would have been deemed hopeless a few years ago."

This most recent case is a perfect example, he said. "It's just incredibly heartening when all the time and effort and energy and thought put into it pays off in huge ways."

Speaking on behalf of the entire team that accomplished this mission, Cannon noted that the feeling of reward after a positive outcome is "hard to describe."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Kevin Iinuma

ECMO from P1

cians, nurses and respiratory specialists for this critical patient, Cannon said.

Joined by a transplant surgeon and a perfusionist from Columbia University, the team transported the patient via ambulance from the burn center to the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland flight line, where they boarded a C-17 en route to John F. Kennedy International Airport.

Once in New York, an ambulance transported the patient to the New York-Presbyterian Hospital.

"Since her transport now just over two weeks ago, she has made a remarkable recovery to the point where she may be able to come off of ECMO soon and is able to respond to her husband, who is still at her bedside," Cannon said.

LINGUIST from P1

up in regions with diverse cultures and where many languages were spoken," Costea said.

His story begins near the border of Transylvania – yes, Transylvania – a part of modern-day Romania.

While both his parents spoke Romanian, his mother's family also spoke Hungarian, which is unsurprising because Hungary long ruled Transylvania.

Many people also spoke Russian and Ukranian since Romania belonged to the Eastern Bloc until the Iron Curtain disintegrated in the early 1990s.

At age 6, Costea and his family moved to Austria, where they learned German, and while he attended a formal secondary school there, he studied English and Latin.

When he was 16, the Costea family moved again, this time to the United States of America. Eight years later, he joined the U.S. Army.

"I wanted to get into the military intelligence field," Costea said. "I consider myself a technical problem-solver first, but speaking

other languages fits well with being a cryptologic linguist."

Language tests Costea took upon entering the Army earned him a seat at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Calif. There he pursued proficiency in Spanish, which is similar to Romanian.

Although Costea concedes nothing beats growing up speaking more than one language, adults who seek to learn another language have one potential advantage.

"Learning a language from scratch gives a person a different approach to language," he said.

"Non-native speakers have an opportunity to study the language fundamentals at a higher or more sophisticated level."

After graduating from DLI with honors, he underwent intelligence training at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, where he again graduated with honors.

He was assigned to the 717th MI Battalion, the 470th MI Brigade's primary signals intelligence component.

Costea described his battalion as "very linguist attentive."

"They actively seek out unique training opportunities that bolster our

language maintenance abilities," Costea said.

"The fact that the battalion has won two years straight at both INSCOM and Army level shows the language program is obviously working. Our battalion even won the site language competition held annually at the cryptologic center, beating out all other services."

The battalion command team has coined the phrase "Language is a weapon system."

"The battalion program focuses on centralized planning with decentralized execution," said Lt. Col. Joe Kushner, the battalion commander.

"We [the command team] in conjunction with the Command Language Program Manager plan, program and budget for language training six months in advance; these plans are subsequently executed by the company commanders and their own CLPMs.

"We treat language the same way we treat our small arms ranges, combatives, combat lifesaver and leader development programs," Kushner added. "Each is an integral part of being an intelligence professional."

AKERROYD from P3

outstanding job getting donors processed in the limited time we have each day."

"Every year we focus on our trainee blood drives trying to keep up with blood demands at the hospital," said Staff Sgt. Thomas Beauchemin, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center.

"These service members in training are young and healthy so the donor center depends on their participation. Each month, we try to collect as much as possible for our patients because there is a need for blood," Beauchemin said.

"We have trauma patients who need blood in emergency situations and transplant and cancer patients who may use blood every day," he added. "This means the donor center needs donors every day."

With today's advances in medical treatments and increasingly sophisticated procedures for trauma care and bone marrow transplants, the demand for blood continues to rise.

This past year, nearly 170 patients received blood at the San Antonio

Military Medical Center as part of their treatment each month. These patients used more than 14,000 units of blood, platelets and plasma.

"For many of our command teams, it's more than sponsoring a blood drive – it's a point of pride for their units," Beauchemin said. "Collecting these donations meant we were able to provide more blood to our patients."

The lack of eligible blood donors continues to be a serious problem for both the military and civilian blood programs.

Travel, medications, diseases, and high-risk behaviors are among the few eligibility criteria that the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center must consider when screening potential blood donors.

Because of those factors, the military's pool of eligible donors varies between 45 and 55 percent. According to the AABB (formerly the American Association of Blood Banks), nationally, less than 10 percent of the U.S. population donates blood.

For the Armed Services Blood Program, about 20 percent of the eligible military population donates.

"Since blood cannot be

made synthetically, it has to come from people's generosity. It's a vital community service that our students and staff are performing," Brown said.

"Military blood donor centers throughout the country rely on the generosity of volunteer blood donors to meet the critical blood product needs of their installations. Our students and training commands continue to respond to this need time and time again."

"We're asking our tenant units to come forward and sponsor more blood drives," Brown said.

To find an upcoming blood drive and schedule an appointment online visit <https://www.military-donor.com> and enter the sponsor code "ABDC."

Walk-in donors are welcome at the center 7:30 a.m. to noon, Monday through Thursday and 7:30 to 10 a.m. Friday.

The center is located at Building 1240, Harney Road, behind Budge Dental Clinic on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston. For more information, call 295-4655/4989.

For more information about the Armed Services Blood Program or to schedule a donation, visit <http://www.militaryblood.dod.mil>.

Military Saves Week: Good for your finances

By Cheryl Harrison
Warfighter and Family Readiness

The Military Saves Week campaign was created to instruct military members and families on how to save a small portion of their income and reduce debt.

A variety of events are scheduled from Feb. 24 through March 1 at each Joint Base San Antonio location.

Military Saves Week was developed by the Consumer Federation of America and the Department of Defense.

The program is a social marketing campaign designed to persuade, motivate and encourage military families to save money every month, and to convince leaders and organizations to be aggressive in promoting automatic savings.

The consumer or-

ganization promotes “starting small and thinking big.” Putting away an affordable amount per month can add up, as well as provide

financial security in case of emergencies.

The goals are simple. They include:

- Develop a personal financial plan;
- Establish or re-establish good credit;
- Save a portion of each paycheck;
- Enroll in the various military financial vehicles available to service members; and
- Become educated on personal financial responsibility.

Events have been scheduled at units, family centers, exchanges and child and youth centers



throughout Joint Base San Antonio, as well as classes offered on the Thrift Savings Plan, savings and budgets.

Service members and their families can start the journey towards financial stability by taking the “Savers Pledge” at <http://www.militarysaves.org>.

Historically, members of the military don’t save enough money for key financial events such as retirement, children’s college expenses and usually don’t have a readily available emergency fund.

Military Saves Week events listed in the box.

JBSA-Lackland, Building 1249

Feb. 25 through March 1 at the units: Unit awareness and marketing

Feb. 25, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.: First Term Airman Center

Feb. 26, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Personal readiness briefing

Feb. 26, 1 to 4 p.m.: Free credit reports

Feb. 27, 10:30 a.m. to noon: Credit management class

Feb. 27, 2 to 3:30 p.m.: Rex Somerville, The Financial Services Group, Central Region Equifax Inc.

Feb. 27, 2 to 3:30 p.m.: Saving and investing for retirements, Dean Taylor, San Antonio Better Business Bureau
28 Feb., 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.: Thrift Savings Plan class

JBSA-Randolph

Feb. 25 to March 1 at units: Unit awareness and marketing

Feb. 25, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Airman Dormitory: Information Fair

Feb. 26, 2 to 4 p.m. at Airman Dormitory: Broadway Bank and Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union Information Fair

Feb. 27, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., location to be determined: saving and investing for retirement, Dean Taylor, San Antonio Better Business Bureau

March 1, 2 to 3 p.m.: credit management workshop, Airman and Family Readiness Center, Classroom No. 3.
Free credit reports, Broadway Bank and Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union

JBSA Fort Sam Houston, Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797

Feb. 25 Feb., 10 a.m.: Military Saves Week kickoff and pledge signing

Feb. 25 to March 1 at units: Unit awareness and marketing

Feb. 26, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.: First Termers Financial Readiness Training
Feb. 26, 9 to 11 a.m.: Saving and investing

Feb. 26, 2 to 4 p.m.: Budgeting

Feb. 26, 4 to 5:30 p.m. at Teen Center: Teen financial readiness, Broadway Bank

Feb. 27, 4 to 5:30 p.m. at Teen Center: Middle school teens financial readiness, Broadway Bank

Feb. 28, 4 to 7 p.m.: Jobs and money
March 1, 10 to 11:15 a.m. at Company G, 232nd Medical Battalion: Identity theft and social networking, Dean Taylor, San Antonio Better Business Bureau

March 1, 2 to 3 p.m.: Identity theft and social networking, San Antonio Better Business Bureau

Tackling teen dating violence; events planned

By Emily Mueller
Family Advocacy Outreach Program

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, which underscores the prominence of this subject in today's society.

Domestic violence is an issue that adult victims find difficult to discuss and often keep secret.

It should come as no surprise that teen dating violence is even less discussed and under-reported by victims, who are often navigating difficult teen years and are, by and large, secretive in nature.

Some unique challenges for teens are limited knowledge of resources, social pressure to have a boyfriend or girlfriend, lack of experience in healthy dating relationships, emotional attachment to or fear of the abuser or fear that peers will lose respect for them or take sides against them.

Many teens believe extreme jealousy and controlling behaviors are

signs of love and caring.

Teens and young adults can benefit from continued education and awareness that just because their dating partner is not currently physically abusive, this does not mean a relationship is healthy.

Any unhealthy relationship trait can be a risk factor for future physical, sexual and/or emotional abuse.

In addition, acceptance, or lack of awareness of unhealthy dating practices, can lead to a cycle of domestic violence in future relationships.

This month, support healthy dating relationships, raise awareness, and help prevent dating violence by participating in one or all of the many upcoming events offered throughout Joint Base San Antonio.

JBSA-Randolph, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, JBSA-Lackland and community organizations will be joining forces to promote awareness and prevention of dating abuse.

Some of the activities



Photo by Deyanira Romo Rossell

(From left) Fourteen-year-old Mala Bradford and 16-year-old Jasmyne Greene enjoy dinner with 16-year-old Dorian Page at the Middle School Teen Center. Along with a Valentine dinner, the teens met with Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Family Advocacy Program outreach managers who talked to them about dating awareness.

in the planning include:

- Talks on teen dating at the youth center
- Teen Dating Violence presentation by Relate Right SA
- Poetry Slam at JBSA-FSH Feb. 23, with preparation courses of-

ferred at local base schools and youth centers

Signs of Healthy Relationships:

- Your partner respects you and your individuality
- Both of you are open and honest

• Your partner supports you and your choices even when they disagree with you

• Both of you have equal say and respected boundaries

• Your partner understands you need to study or hang out with friends or family

• You can communicate your feelings without being afraid of negative consequences

• Both of you feel safe being open and honest

• Can disagree or even argue without ever threatening harm

Signs of Unhealthy Relationships:

• Inconsiderate, disrespectful or distrustful

• Doesn't communicate their feelings

• Tries to emotionally or financially control you

• Keeps you from getting a job or gets you fired

• Humiliates you in

front of friends, or on websites such as Facebook

• Threatens to 'out you' to family

• Threatens to commit suicide if they "lose you"

Ten Warning Signs of Abuse

• Checking your cell phone or email without permission

• Constantly putting you down

• Extreme jealousy or insecurity

• Explosive Temper

• Isolating you from family or friends

• Making false accusations

• Mood swings

• Physically hurting you in any way

• Possessiveness

• Telling you what to do

Warning Signs of Physical Abuse

• Scratching, punch-

See VIOLENCE, P20

Soldier, family resilience programs offer many options

By Lori Newman
JBSA-FSH News Leader

The Comprehensive Soldier and Family Fitness-Performance and Resilience Enhancement Program, or CSF2-PREP, has been available at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston since 2008, but many people still don't know what the program is. "The program started initially as a learning enhancement program," said Eduardo Bojorquez, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston site manager. "In the 1990s, the performance aspect was added to the program, working mostly with the U.S. Military Academy cadet student-athletes."

The Center for Enhanced Performance was established at West Point in 1993 to provide mental skills training and academic support to the cadets.

In 2004, then-chief of staff of the Army Gen. Peter Schoomaker recognized the need for mental skills education, directing the CEP to develop a program for the Army.

Schoomaker's decision is considered the origin of Comprehensive Soldier Fitness-Performance and Resilience Enhancement Program, formerly the Army Center for Enhanced Performance.

A CSF2-PREP training site was established on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston in 2008. The name was changed to CSF2-PREP to accommodate the needs of family members as well.

On March 1, CSF2-PREP will convert to CSF2 Training Center.

Six performance enhancement specialists are housed in a modest building on the corner of Schofield and Scott roads, across from the Rocco Dining Facility.

One of the trainer's primary missions is working with Soldiers and cadre at the Warrior Transition Battalion.

"We are teaching Soldiers performance enhancements and sports psychology skills so they can apply it to life principals as they go through the comprehensive transition plan," said Alissa Bookwalter, performance evaluation coordinator, Army Warrior Transition Command.

"Every Soldier who comes into the WTB receives Phase I Goal Setting within the first 30 days of their arrival. That's usually done by their occupational therapist," Bookwalter explained.

The CSF2-PREP trainers teach the Soldiers Phase II Goal Setting between days 31 and 90. There is also follow-up training through the adaptive sports program and individual sessions.

"There are lots of opportunities for the Soldiers to use what they learn and hone in on these skills," Bookwalter said.



Photo by Lori Newman

Nurse case managers, first sergeants and commanders from across the Army receive Performance and Resilience Enhancement Program training Feb. 7 and 8 at the Hilton San Antonio Airport hotel.



The Soldiers must attend a 16-hour training course where they go through every module of the Mental Skills Foundations.

The five mental skills within the performance enhancement model include building and maintaining confidence, attention control, energy management, goal setting and integrating imagery.

In addition to the performance and resilience training, CSF2-PREP has implemented the Learning Enhancement Program, which addresses the cognitive, motivational and affective components of learning to help people succeed in military education and training.

"We teach them about mindset, attitude and thought performance

interaction – how their thoughts can be used to perfect their performance," said performance enhancement specialist Justin Su'a.

"A lot of times, wounded warriors experience traumatic injuries – life-changing injuries – and they have taken a huge hit to their confidence. We teach them strategies on how to enhance their confidence."

Two performance enhancement specialist trainers are assigned to each company in the WTB.

During morning formation, one of the trainers talks for a minute or two about one point or skill the Soldiers have learned. This is called the PREP Mental Minute.

"They all like it during morning formation, because it allows them to hone in on one thought accentuating a performance enhancement skill before their day gets too busy," Bojorquez said.

The trainers also work with the Army Medical Department Center and School to incorporate the 16-hour performance enhancement model training into their leadership courses.

A group of nurse case managers, first sergeants and commanders from across the Army received the training Feb. 7 and 8 at the Hilton San Antonio Airport hotel.

At the end of the training, instructor Justin Su'a asked the attendees what one thing they will take away from the CSF2-PREP training. The answers were varied; some said visualization, while others said goal setting, guided relaxation or energy management.

"Everyone in the group will take away something different," said 1st Sgt. George Graham from Fort

Gordon, Ga.

"This training focuses on how to deal with yourself first, and then how to apply it to the warriors we take care of," Graham said. "The take-away for me is how to manage my time and take care of my family better."

Some of the techniques Graham learned were relaxation, prioritization and how to take a negative situation and be more optimistic.

Capt. Chet Zdanczewicz, a company commander at the WTB at Fort Carson, Colo., said he thought the training was first class.

"It teaches everyday life exercises that we can reflect on and utilize from this day forward for the rest of our lives," Zdanczewicz said. "That is priceless."

In addition to working with Soldiers and family members, the trainers have also reached out to teens by teaching one-hour teen resilience workshops.

The first teen resilience class was held Jan. 22. The workshop focused on goal setting, overcoming obstacles and being successful. Another workshop will be held 4 to 5 p.m. Tuesday in Building 2620 on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

"The trainers extracted key points of the program and made them relevant to their lives in school, sports and home," Bojorquez said. They are also planning to implement the training at Cole Middle and High School in the future.

One commander told Su'a that CSF2-PREP was the best kept secret on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

"We want people to know about us and what we do," Su'a said.

Secretary of the Army orders 'Ready and Resilient Campaign'

By Gary Sheftick
Army News Service

Secretary of the Army John McHugh directed that programs from resilience training to suicide prevention be part of a wide-ranging "Ready and Resilient Campaign" plan, which will launch later this month.

During a press conference Feb. 4 at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., McHugh said he's looked at 47 recommendations from an Army-wide Behavioral Health Task Force, which he stood up last year.

While McHugh said findings of the task force have not yet been staffed and are not yet ready for release, he did divulge one of the recommendations: that all programs dealing with resilience come under a single command authority, the G-1 or Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

"They felt the disparity of command authority over all of these various programs tended to diffuse things rather than make them more accessible," McHugh said of the Behavioral Health Task Force recommendations.



Photo by Spc. John G. Martinez

Secretary of the Army John McHugh (right) signs a directive at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., Feb. 4. McHugh is directing the development of a "Ready and Resilient" campaign to integrate and synchronize the multiple efforts and programs designed to improve the readiness and resilience of the Total Force – Soldiers (active, Reserve and National Guard), Army civilians and their families.

He explained that the abundance of programs, and redundancy of services, could sometimes be confusing, making it difficult for commanders or Soldiers to know where to turn.

In order to eliminate that confusion, McHugh signed a memorandum Monday directing that "multiple efforts and programs" be integrated and synchronized under the Army Ready and Resilient Campaign plan, or R2C.

R2C programs will include those aimed at eliminating sexual assault and sexual harassment, bullying and hazing, substance abuse, domestic violence, and any stigmas or barriers associated with seeking help, according to the memo.

McHugh charged Under Secretary of the Army Joseph Westphal, Ph.D., and Vice Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III to finalize plans for the campaign and present them to him by Feb. 15. The campaign "must be a top priority for all Army leaders," the secretary said.



Photo by Sgt. Kimberly Hackbarth

A Soldier with 1st Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, Combined Task Force 4-2 (4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division), helps a fellow Soldier onto the rooftop of an old, destroyed building to provide protective overwatch for another element of their patrol in Afghanistan Jan. 29. The Soldiers, from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., are currently serving in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The R2C will make improvements to the Integrated Disability Evaluation System, known as IDES, and shorten case-processing times, according to the memorandum. And it will improve methods to help leaders understand high-risk behaviors that could lead to suicide.

The campaign will make resilience training a key part of all professional military education, according to the establishing memo. And it will promote healthy lifestyles that are based on the triad of physical fitness, nutrition and sleep.

Finally, the campaign will strive to eliminate stigma that might keep Soldiers from seeking treatment for post-traumatic stress or brain injuries.

"We're trying to teach Soldiers it's OK to reach out for help," McHugh said. "You don't just do that in a class or two to a young Soldier. It really has to be a career-long progression."

The R2C will seek to institutionalize education to promote

resilience and build it into professional military instruction at various levels of a Soldier's career, McHugh said.

"We're trying to instill into virtually every level of training, it's your responsibility to take care of your buddy," he said.

McHugh lamented the record 325 suicides committed by Soldiers last year. "All of us in the Army are deeply concerned about this," he said.

His announcement was made at Joint Base Lewis-McChord because his Army-wide Behavioral Health Task Force review was initiated as a result of Soldiers and veterans there having post-traumatic stress disorders diagnoses downgraded last year at Madigan Army Medical Center.

McHugh said the problems stemmed from a "forensic diagnosis" method which is no longer used in the Army. Forensic diagnosis is a "legitimate" procedure, McHugh said, but one that analysis found to be "not workable" in the Army.

Improved Civilian Education Course offers Army employees professional development opportunities

By Amanda Rodriguez
IMCOM Public Affairs

Thirty-four Army civilians from Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston graduated Friday from the first U.S. Army Civilian Education Course offered by the Army Management Staff College at the U.S. Army Installation Management Academy.

The course marks the initial venture of AMSC's year-old mobile training team away from its Fort Leavenworth, Kan., headquarters.

"Our first class offered at IMCOM is the intermediate course," Smith said. "A team of instructors from Fort Leavenworth is here now and will return again to offer the CES Basic course in June and September.

"It's a great opportunity for our local Army civilians and with classes quickly filling," Smith added. "We're optimistic about hosting more in 2014."

The three-week course, which began Jan. 28, was full.

In fact, the June Basic course is nearly full as well, thanks to IMCOM's effort to promote seats, seeking students from other commands.

According to Army training staff, strong partnerships among the JBSA Army commands and U.S. Army Management Staff College, which oversees CES, benefit all involved. CES plays a critical role in career development at every level.

All eight courses are in demand because they are



Photo by Amanda S. Rodriguez

Anthony Riddick, an Army Installation Management Command employee, discusses his leadership review of Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal during the first Civilian Education System intermediate course offered at the U.S. Army Installation Management Academy.

JTF-51 puts new spin on hurricane preparation

By Sgt. 1st Class
Christopher DeHart
ARNORTH Public Affairs

Most people have little, if anything, to look forward to during hurricane season.

In south Texas, as well as many similar regions around the country and North America, hurricanes cause massive damage and literally uproot people's lives when they strike.

Joint Task Force-51, which serves as U.S. Army North's rapidly deployable command post, has a large stake in hurricane season; the joint task force conducted a hurricane response exercise Feb. 4 through 8 at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis.

This training event marked the first official exercises of 2013 for JTF-51 and it focused on readiness for hurricane season, which traditionally begins in June.

The training provided an opportunity to etch out details that may prove critical in the event of an actual disaster response.

It is the team's responsibility to provide military support to the primary federal agency when conducting Defense Support of Civil Authority operations when called upon.

The members will normally work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Homeland Security, as well as state law enforcement and emergency response units, National Guard and Reserve units, and other federal, state and local groups that provide aid and assistance during the stressful and often time-sensitive events.

They provide support to the state and federal agencies and structures that provide essential support to save lives and mitigate loss of life and limb and preserve property and also provide resources during and after a hurricane or similar event.

"We are bringing a core group of people, a contingency command post, and we are augmented by sustainment, aviation, operations and medical forces," said Col. David Draeger, JTF-51 chief of staff.

The Soldiers and their civilian partners are committed to the tasks and to answering the needs of the communities involved during times of great stress – especially those caused by hurricanes, said Draeger, who has extensive civilian law enforcement experience in addition to his 30-year career as a military police officer in the Army.

The exercises are conducted throughout the year, at various times and in different capacities.



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Christopher DeHart

Second Lt. Cody Queen (left) and 2nd Lt. Kevin Blakely, both with the 302nd Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, Westover Air Force Base, Mass., help lay down heavy-duty treadtrak to keep cables and wires organized during set-up of Joint Task Force-51's Joint Operations Center Feb. 4.

Hurricanes are one of the most probable threats the unit prepares for.

However, other natural and man-made disasters rank up there as well, such as earthquakes, tropical storms and potential terrorist attacks.

Less than 75 people make up the core element of JTF-51, which can grow substantially with augmentations from U.S. Army North, depending on its mission requirements.

The military and civilian members of the core group said they look forward to training opportunities such as this.

"I think the best part of the HURREX is it brings in all the players who support JTF-51 into a safe environment," said Lt. Col. Andrew Novitske, who works in the J35 Operations section.

"Here, they are free to try new things, invent new ways to do things, work on sustaining what does work and no one gets hurt if mistakes are made. It's better to do this here than to try it



Spc. Lora Wade (left) and Air Force Staff Sgt. Samuel Carter uncoil power cables Feb. 4 during the setup of Joint Task Force-51's Joint Operations Center. Wade augmented JTF-51's J3 section during the exercise. She is assigned to the 302nd Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, which is based out of Westover Air Force Base, Mass. Carter serves as a staff weather operations forecaster with the 3rd Weather Squadron out of Fort Hood.

on the fly during the real thing."

Exercises such as this may occasionally be thought of as "old hat" to some of the team's veterans. This misconception is quickly laid to rest because with the many new faces this year, they also bring a new perspective, and new ideas, on how to improve coordination and operations.

"No exercise is ever really the same, but you don't always get practice at what you do here like in your regular job," said Sgt. 1st Class Adrian Lambert, fusion cell team leader.

"The fusion cell is a first for us. Our goal is to create critical infrastructure packages for each mission assignment that comes up during this kind of event.

The fusion cell is almost like a mini-JTF in that it has individuals from each of the joint

task force's staff sections in addition to participants from subordinate units. The team combines their skills and knowledge to identify needs and resources in a timely fashion to expedite assistance to those in need.

Among those working with Lambert was 2nd Lt. Cody Queen, who serves with the 302nd Maneuver Enhancement Brigade out of Westover Air Force Base, Mass. Queen has an intelligence background similar to Lambert.

"This is the first exercise for this type of unit and, so far, we have found a good way to build these (critical infrastructure) packets and come up with new ways to place assets to support the (mission assignment) task orders," Queen said. "We are a little bit of everything, but it forces us to think outside the box." "It was a good oppor-

tunity to integrate them and work together with our augmentees," said Lt. Col. Jared Erickson, the J3 chief of operations, who was participating for the first time.

"We were able to identify areas to improve involving actual operations with each other and toward the mission."

After the exercise wrapped up and after-action reviews were complete, the task force's senior enlisted leader spoke of the significance of training events such as this.

"Yes, we can save 500 lives, maybe. But, if we take this seriously and do what we need to, we may be able to save 5,000 instead," said Sgt. Maj. Jaime Garza Jr., JTF-51.

"Every day we have to shoot to be better. This isn't about going overseas and changing someone else's way of life – it's about preserving ours."

Cole swimmers conquer regionals; one advances to state competition

Swimmers from Robert G. Cole High School paddled into history Feb. 8 and 9 during the regional meet at the Palo Alto College Swim Complex.

Cole sent four relay teams and had four people qualify for individual events.

The qualifying relay teams were:
Boys 200 medley relay team and 200 freestyle relay team: Brent Howell, Booker King, Matt Schiek and Connor Bar.
Girls 200 freestyle relay team: Morgan (last name not released), Marissa Griffith, Rachel McNaughton and Sierra Torell.
Girls 400 freestyle relay team: Mackenzie Lee, Allison Tempel, Elizabeth Rose and Daniela (last name not released).

Qualifying for individual events were:
Sierra Torell: 50 freestyle and 100 butterfly
Rachel McNaughton: 100 backstroke

Booker King: 100 breaststroke
Matthew Schiek: 200 individual medley and the 100 butterfly
For the first time in a

decade, Cole will have an athlete competing at the state swim meet in Austin Feb. 22 and 23.

With a record-breaking time of 24.79 seconds in the 50 freestyle, Sierra Torell took first place at regionals and will compete with the best athletes from throughout Texas.



Courtesy photo

Members of the boys and girls swim teams from Robert G. Cole High School pose after the regional championships at the Palo Alto College Swim Complex Feb. 8 and 9.

FSHISD WEEKLY CAMPUS ACTIVITIES FEB. 18 TO 23

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School

Feb. 18
Student holiday

Feb. 21

DENTAC during physical education class

Feb. 22

College/university T-shirt day
Progress reports go home

Robert G. Cole Middle and High School

Feb. 18

Student holiday

Feb. 19

Cole Book Fair, Media Center, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Varsity baseball vs. Sabinal, 4:30 p.m.

Girls golf tournament at Seguin, 8:30 a.m.

Feb. 20

Cole Book Fair, Media Center, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"Cole's Got Talent" rehearsal at Moseley Gym, 4 to 7 p.m.

Cole Chili Cook Off

Feb. 21

Varsity baseball at TMI Tournament, TBA

Cole Book Fair, Media Center, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Junior varsity baseball vs. St. Anthony, 4:30 p.m.

Boys golf tournament at Seguin, 8:30 a.m.

Jostens ring delivery during high school lunch

Feb. 22

Varsity baseball at TMI Tournament, TBA

Cole Book Fair, Media Center, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Girls SAISD golf tournament at Riverside, 8 a.m.

Middle school track at Medina Valley

Feb. 23

Varsity baseball at TMI Tournament, TBA

Girls SAISD golf tournament at Riverside, 8 a.m.

High school track at Medina Valley

Talent Showcase

Singers, musicians, poets, circus acts, storytellers, dancers, actors and comedians are invited to show their stuff at "Believe," a talent showcase Saturday, 6 p.m. at the Roadrunner Community Center, Building 2797. Call 221-4871.

Murder is a Game at the Harlequin

Friday and Saturday, dinner is served at 6:15 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m. at the Harlequin Dinner Theatre, Building 2652 Harney Road. Call 222-9694.

PowerPoint Level 1

Tuesday, 8 a.m.-noon, Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-2518 or 221-2705.

Credit & Debt Management

Tuesday, 9-11 a.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0946.

Unit Service

Coordinator Meeting

Tuesday, noon-1:30 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-1868.

Consumer Awareness

Tuesday, 2-4 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0946.

Teen Resilience Workshop

Tuesday, 4-5 p.m., Building 2620 on the corner of Schofield and Scott Road. Call 808-6089 or visit <http://www.csfprep.army.mil>.

Army Family Team Building Level 2

Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0918.

PowerPoint Level 2

Wednesday, 8 a.m.-noon, Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-2518 or 221-2705.

Post Deployment Planning Training

Wednesday, 10-11:30 a.m.,

Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0946.

African American/Black History Month Observance

Wednesday, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Roadrunner Community Center, Building 2797. Guest speaker is Dr. Merline Pitre. Entertainment by Robin Farland and a food sampling. Call 602-0207.

Hearts Apart

Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Military and Family Readiness Center, Building 2797. Call 221-0946 or 221-1820.

Hearts Apart

Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0946.

First Termer Financial Readiness

Wednesday, 12-4 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0946.

BOSS Members Meeting

Wednesday, noon at the BOSS Room in the Benner Barracks. Group offers service members recreational activities and volunteer opportunities. Meets regularly every other Wednesday at noon. Call 295-6867 or 221-3949.

Intramural Golf Coaches Needed

DOD cardholders interested in coaching intramural golf will meet Wednesday, Feb. 27 and March 6, noon-1 p.m. at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Golf Club. Team rosters due March 18. Call 808-5710 or 221-7173.

Excel Level 2

Thursday, 8 a.m.-noon, Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-2518 or 221-2705.

Resiliency Training

Unit Two: Avoid Thinking Traps Thursday, 9-11 a.m., Navy and Air Force Education Center, 4011 Hood Street, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston. Call 221-0946.

EFMP Support Group

Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-2962/2418.

24/7 Dads

Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0349.

Fort Sam Houston Preservation Society

Retired U.S. Coast Guard Capt. Richard Whynot speaks about Army Transport Service at Fort Sam Houston Preservation Society meeting Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at Stilwell House, 626 Infantry Post, JBSA-FSH. Call 824-1917 or 646-5704.

Safety Seat Clinic

Thursday, 1-3 p.m., JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Fire Station. Children must be present for height and weight measurements. Call 221-0349.

Battlemind Training for Families

Thursday, 1-3 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-0946.

Sponsorship Training

Thursday, 2-3 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-1372.

3-D Archery Shoot

Feb. 23-24, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at JBSA-Camp Bullis. There are 30 targets at 5-55 yards on a different course each month. The competition categories are novice to expert, shooting in groups from 3-5 people. The fun shoot is \$10 per person and the competition shoot is \$15 per person. Call 295-7577.

Polar Bear Aquathon

Feb. 23, 2 p.m., JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Aquatic Center, Building 3300, Williams Road. Event includes 500-meter swim in a heated pool and a 5-mile run with three categories, including men, women and a two-person relay. Cost is \$20 per person. To register, visit http://www.fortsammwr.com/image/OfficialForms/Run_Registration-Form.pdf. Call 221-3593.

Teen Poetry Slam

Feb. 23, 6 to 9 p.m., Military and Family Readiness Center, Building 2797, for teens 13 to 18 years old. Open to military ID card holders. Call 221-0349.

African-American Heritage Month Gospel Fest

Feb. 24, 3-7 p.m., JBSA-

Randolph Chapel 1, call 565-3736, 565-4904 or 652-2525.

Military Saves Week Feb. 25 to March 1

For more information on Military Saves Week or help planning to improve your financial future call the Financial Programs at JBSA-Lackland at 371-3722; JBSA-Randolph at 652-5321 or JBSA-Fort Sam Houston at 221-2380.

African-American Heritage Month 5K Fun Run/Walk

Feb. 28, 7:30-8:30 a.m., JBSA-Randolph Eberle Park. Call 565-3736, 565-4904 or 652-2525.

Newcomer's Extravaganza

Feb. 28, 9:30-11 a.m., Sam Houston Community Center. Call 221-1628.

Jobs & Money

Feb. 28, 4-7 p.m., Warfighter and Family Readiness, Building 2797. Call 221-2380.

The 'United As One' Tour

March 2, 3 p.m., historic Fort Sam Houston Theater. The gospel show features James Fortune and FIYA, Vashawn Mitchell, Kierra Sheard, and Zacardi Cortez, hosted by comedian Shucky Ducky. Doors open at 2 p.m. Reserved tickets on sale for \$35 or \$40 at the door. For more information, visit ArmyMWR.com or call 466-2020.

National Prayer Luncheon

March 7, 11:30 a.m.-1:15 p.m., Sam Houston Community Center. Guest speaker is retired Lt. Gen. Tom Jaco. Tickets are available with a suggested donation of \$5 for E5/GS5 and below, \$10 for all others. Call 221-2754 or 221-5007.

SKIESUnlimited Classes

SKIESUnlimited classes for children ages 18 months to 18 years include Tae Kwon Do, private piano lessons, creative dance and ballet/tap. Call 221-3381 for dates and times.

HIRED! Program

Apprentices can sign up for the 2013 HIRED! Winter Term, March 25 to June 15, for opportunities to work at the Force Support Squadron

See INSIDE, P20

CHAPEL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

PROTESTANT SERVICES

Sundays

Main Post (Gift) Chapel
Building 2200, 1605 Wilson Way
8 and 11 a.m. - Traditional

Dodd Field Chapel
Building 1721, 3600 Dodd Blvd.
8:30 a.m. - Samoan

10:30 a.m. - Gospel

Army Medical Department

Regimental Chapel
Building 1398, 3545 Garden Ave.
9:20 a.m. - 32nd Medical Brigade
Collective Service

Brooke Army Medical Center Chapel

Building 3600,
3851 Roger Brooke Rd.
10 a.m. - Traditional

Evans Auditorium

Building 1396, 1396 Garden Ave.
11:01 - Contemporary
"Crossroads"

CATHOLIC SERVICES

Daily Mass

Brooke Army Medical Center Chapel
Building 3600,
3851 Roger Brooke Rd.
11:05 a.m., Monday through Friday

Main Post (Gift) Chapel

Building 2200, 1605 Wilson Way
11:30 a.m., Monday through Friday

Saturday

Main Post (Gift) Chapel
4:45 p.m. - Reconciliation
5:30 p.m. - Evening Mass

Sunday

8 a.m. - Morning Mass, AMEDD
8:30 a.m. - Morning Mass, BAMC
9:30 a.m. - Morning Mass, MPC
11:30 a.m. - Morning Mass, BAMC
12:30 p.m. - Morning Mass, DFC

JEWISH SERVICES

8 p.m. - Jewish Worship,
Friday, MPC
8:30 p.m. - Oneg Shabbat,
Friday, MPC

ISLAMIC SERVICE

1:30 p.m. - Jummah, Friday,
AMEDD

LATTER DAY SAINTS SERVICES

1 p.m. - LDS Worship, Sunday,
AMEDD

BUDDHIST SERVICES

1 p.m. - Buddhist Services,
Sunday, AMEDD

For worship opportunities of faith groups not listed here, please visit the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Chaplain's website at <http://www.samhouston.army.mil/chaplain>.

Funston Road Closure March 1-31

To accommodate the installation and connection of a new sewer line, Funston Road will be closed from March 1 through 31, according to 502nd Civil Engineer Squadron officials

Traffic will be detoured around the worksite using Henry T. Allen, Winfield, Schofield and Taylor Roads in either direction. Traffic control signs will be in place to specify detour routings for all roads affected.

In addition, a safety barrier will be set up around the work area for the safety of pedestrians. Access to local businesses will be maintained throughout the installation and connection.

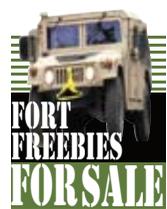
According to the contractor, Cleveland Construction, Inc., the work will be performed between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays. For more information, call 389-5877.



OUTSIDE THE GATE

United San Antonio Pow Wow

The 16th annual United San Antonio Pow Wow will be held 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday at the Alzafar Shrine Temple, 901 N. Loop 1604 West. The event is free and open to the public.



FOR SALE: Patio bench, 53 inches long, plus patio chair, both with cushions, \$23; Penmate dog crates, new, one for large dog, one for small dog, with stainless steel windows and door; hand-crafted metal table with black marble top, 37 inches long, 16 inches wide, 32 inches high, \$75; new Oakley sun glasses, iridium, 99 percent UV protection, includes hard case, \$76; color TV and other items. Call 313-0061.

INSIDE from P19

facilities and activities on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston. Registration forms available at the Middle School Teen Center, Youth Center and Parent Central. Application deadline is March 1. Call 221-3386.

Air Force Arts & Crafts Gallery

The 2013 Air Force Arts & Crafts Gallery Program requests submissions from artists, craftsmen and photographers in the armed forces and their family members around the world. Adults, teens ages 13 to 17 and youth ages 6 to 12 may submit 2- and 3-D art, photography and digital art. Three entries permitted per person per category. Entries must be dropped off at the JBSA-Lackland Arts & Crafts Center, 1441 Patrick St., Building 7041. Call 671-5508 or visit <https://www.usafservices.com/ArtsCraftsGallery.aspx>.

Golf Course Survey

Joint Base San Antonio is gathering feedback on its golf courses to improve operations and better meet the needs of patrons. The survey is online at <http://2013JBSAGolfCourseSurvey.questionpro.com>

Central Post Gym Reopens on JBSA-FSH

MWR patrons have a new fitness center at their disposal on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston with the reopening of the Central Post Gym, Building

Griffin Golf Tourney

Volunteers from the 470th Military Intelligence Brigade host a golf tournament at the Olympia Hills Golf Course, 12900 Mount Olympus, Universal City. Check-in from 6:30 to 7 a.m. March 8. Tournament starts at 8 a.m. Registration deadline is Feb. 22. Entry fee of \$70 each includes a barbecue brisket and chicken lunch. Prizes awarded for the longest drive and the closest to the pin. Call (703) 725-4630.

IMCOM from P15

prerequisites for admission into other military schools and directly impact a civilian employee's career progression.

"The Civilian Education System is increasingly important to employees for career progression and entrance into senior leader schools," said Mark Smith, a human resources specialist and IMCOM's CES registrar.

"It's also a chance to work cooperatively with people from a variety of backgrounds, meeting people you might rarely have the chance to and applying team building skills to multiple scenarios."

CES courses include online modules followed by classroom instruction. Until establishing the new mobile training teams, classroom time meant temporary duty at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

Each course, ranging from foundation level to advanced, is tailored to specific pay grades. Central funding and flexible course delivery methods, like the mobile training team, makes CES more accessible to local Army civilians, according to developers.

While IMCOM invited AMSC and offered to host the course, Smith included all Army commands at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston in the request for slots.

U.S. Army Medical Command Workforce Development Specialist Ray Mendoza stressed that a mobile training team teaching the course on-site saves money and increases the number of available training slots.

"By partnering with IMCOM, all local commands and Army civilians benefit," Mendoza said.

"This is a great opportunity for develop-

ment and networking for civilians. It's also a less expensive way to get 34 people trained all at once. MEDCOM is sending 16 people over for training – it would take several years to train 16 people, from the same installation, by sending them individually to Leavenworth."

Other recent changes in the program pertain to equivalency credits and transferrable credit for graduate and undergraduate students.

"Previously, students who had taken equivalent training had to navigate through Army Training Requirements and Resources System or the Civilian Human Resource Training Application System and request a review in order to receive credit for similar training and development," Smith said.

The new equivalency process takes place automatically when students register, avoiding redundancy and ensuring each employee's Army professional development growth is accurately documented.

The credit is granted regardless of when the equivalent course was completed. The previous ten-year cap on equivalency training is now obsolete, Smith added.

For employees enrolled in accredited graduate and undergraduate programs, some colleges and universities accept CES courses as transfer credits.

Webster, Phoenix and DeVry universities are among those that award credit for CES.

For more information about the latest CES courses, visit the course catalog at <https://www.atrrs.army.mil>.

Civilians registering for courses or requesting more detailed information should contact their local training representative or call 466-0286.

VIOLENCE from P11

ing biting, strangling or kicking

- Throwing something at you such as a phone, book, shoe or plate
- Pulling your hair
- Pushing or pulling
- Grabbing your clothing
- Using a gun, knife or other weapon
- Forcing you to have sex or perform a sexual act
- Grabbing your face to

LANGUAGE from P3

scheduling local classes to sending them to DLI or the National Cryptologic School, to arranging "immersions" training in a country where the foreign language is the primary language spoken. Some foreign language speakers may even be sent to English classes.

"Some Spanish-speaking Soldiers may be fluent enough in Spanish to skip DLI and go directly to their other training," Hansen said. "However, some of them may need to improve their English, and we can help them with that too."

Hansen, who also supports training for the brigade's civilian personnel, doesn't manage the brigade's language program alone; the brigade's subordinate battalions and its 401st MI Company have language program managers too, which is helpful because all but two of the battalions are geographically separated from brigade headquarters.

The language managers make a "concerted effort" to provide six weeks of training for Soldiers before each one takes the Defense Language Proficiency Test, according to Hansen. This annual requirement ensures linguists are maintaining

make you look at them

- Grabbing you to prevent you from leaving or to force you to go somewhere

For more information about dating violence, click on <http://www.teendvmonth.org/dating-violence-101.org>, <http://www.whitehouse.gov/1is2many> and <http://www.loveisrespect.org>, call the National Dating Abuse Helpline at (866) 331-9474 or (866) 331-8453 or text "loveis" to 77054.

their language skill level.

"If a Soldier fails, a lot of focus is brought upon them," said Hansen, who related that the failing Soldier then undergoes counseling, more language classes and a retest at the end of six months.

If the Soldier fails the retake, the process repeats itself. A second failure could result in reclassification of the Soldier to another occupational specialty. However, within the 470th MI Brigade, third failures have been rare.

Hansen said they look at the test as a means not only to ascertain the Soldiers' language proficiency but also to determine how well the language training is working.

"We are constantly evaluating the needs as well as the learning styles," Hansen said.

"Some students may have trouble listening – which is vital if they are cryptologic linguists – while others may have trouble with writing or speaking."

Consequently, different students will find different learning methods more effective for them.

"A lot of additional resources are online," Hansen noted. "But nothing beats one-on-one with an instructor."