FORT SAM HOUSTON
News Leader
FEBRUARY 6, 2015
VOL. 57, NO. 5
A PUBLICATION OF THE 502nd AIR BASE WING – JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-FORT SAM HOUSTON

JBSA HOTLINES

DOD Safe Helpline
877-995-5247
JBSA Sexual Assault Hotline
808-SARC (7272)
JBSA Domestic Abuse Hotline
367-1213
JBSA Duty Chaplain
221-9363

STORMWATER RUNOFF EFFECTS PAGE 8

SAMMC ASKING FOR BLOOD DONATIONS PAGE 9

JBSA-FSH HONORS MLK LEGACY PAGE 12

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Christopher DeHart

The Fort Sam Houston Caisson Section and Honor Guard Platoon carries Army Sgt. Gilberto Sanchez to the caisson wagon to be taken to his final resting place Jan. 23 at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. Sanchez, a Korean War medic, went missing in December 1950 when his position was overrun at the battle of Chosin Reservoir.

Korean War-era Army medic, missing for 64 years, finally laid to rest at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery

By Phil Reidinger
AMEDD Center and School Public Affairs

Army Sgt. Gilberto Sanchez, initially listed as missing in action Dec. 2, 1950 and presumed dead Dec. 31, 1953, was finally buried with full military honors at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery Jan. 23 with family members, friends and other veterans attending.

Sanchez, a 19-year-old combat medic, was assigned to Medical Company, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 31st Regimental Combat Team with the 7th Infantry Division during the fighting at the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea. He was lost Dec. 2, 1950 while tending wounded comrades.

Sanchez' remains were not recovered until the North Korean government repatriated 208 boxes of human remains to the United Nations Command in the 1990s. Following extensive DNA analysis over the next two decades, his remains were identified Nov. 25, 2014.

Sanchez was awarded the Purple Heart, the Combat Medical Badge, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, the National Defense service Medal, the Korean

See MISSING, P4

Sgt. Gilberto Sanchez

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Joint Chiefs chairman: sequestration is 'absolutely crazy'

By Lisa Ferdinando
DOD News, Defense Media Activity

Sequestration is "absolutely crazy," will hurt national security and make it "impossible" for the United States to meet its global commitments, according to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The world has changed dramatically since sequestration was passed into law in the Budget Control Act of 2011, Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey said.

Dempsey spoke Jan. 26 at an interview aboard his plane as he returned to Washington following a European trip focusing on threats to the continent.

"The combination of the Budget Control Act and the sequestration mechanism will make it impossible for us to meet our global responsibilities," he said.

Gen. Martin E. Dempsey
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

The sequestration mechanism forces across-the-board government spending cuts, a "mechanical withdrawal" that "doesn't allow you to balance your books," Dempsey said.

"The readiness hole is still the readiness hole. The global security environment is more dangerous and sequestration is still on the books as the law. It's absolutely crazy for this country," the top general said.

The changes in the global environment since 2011 include the emergence of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, Russia's fueling of instability in Ukraine, and a "host of security issues," he said.

"ISIL hadn't manifested itself as a trans-regional threat," the chairman said. "Russia had not annexed Crimea and violated the sovereignty of Ukraine, and in so doing, by the way, stirred up nationalism and ethnicity in Europe in a very unhelpful way."

In addition, the United States is now engaged in trying to reduce sources of instability in Africa, including the mission supporting the fight against Ebola.

In those years since the law was passed, the world has also seen provocations by North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, Dempsey said.

"All those things require consideration of forward presence, readiness, resourcing, countering technological advances by some of our potential adversaries, and that's changed a great deal," the chairman said. "We're trying to encourage everyone to understand that change."

Military leaders in 2010 were predicting that even if the United States withdrew from Iraq and Afghanistan, he said, the military would need three or four years to recover its readiness.

"Because for 10 years we've been focused very narrowly on the counter-insurgency, counter-terror threat and we've lost some of our training edge," Dempsey said.

The United States deferred maintenance on some of its high-end capabilities because of sequestration, he said, including ships, submarines and airplanes.

In a separate interview with Department of Defense News while in Europe recently, the chairman said he would like to have a "conversation with Congress" about reversing the effects of sequestration.

"If they're not reversed, they're going to be imposed in 2016, and they will negatively affect our national security interests," he said.

The chairman added, "Collaboratively we shouldn't allow that to happen."

TxDOT, 502nd ABW partner on travel options study

The Texas Department of Transportation and the 502nd Air Base Wing have partnered on a study of employee commute preferences to better understand regional congestion patterns.

The Active Travel Demand Management Travel Options Study is sponsored by TxDOT to promote travel option programs to employers, employees and other stakeholders along the most congested corridors in the San Antonio area.

The goal is to describe the benefits, both for employers and employees, of alternative scheduling such as telecommuting, flex-time, compressed work weeks, and ride-sharing options such as carpooling, vanpooling and using public transportation. The project team will document strategies already in place, and provide recommendations and a framework for the travel options that will work best for employees.

The commuter survey portion of this study is a means of understanding individual commute patterns, such as how long it takes and how individuals go about meeting their travel needs on a daily basis. As congestion increases in the San Antonio metro area, the TxDOT and the 502nd ABW are interested in learning about what other options might be of interest.

Input from customers is the foundation of the study and will also let us know how we can better support our employees. The survey is anonymous and only takes a few minutes to provide valuable feedback.

The survey link is http://tinyurl.com/JBSA-commute. For more information, call 652-3477 or 652-5307.

(Source: 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron)

SAMCC commercial, main gate closures

The San Antonio Military Medical Center main gate entrance closes from 10 p.m. Feb. 13 until 10 p.m. Feb. 16. The gate closes again at 10 p.m. Feb. 20 through 10 p.m. Feb. 22. The SAMMC Commercial Gate will close as usual for these weekends. These closures will allow necessary safety tests for the denial barriers at the main gate and commercial access drives.

News Briefs

Basura Bash 2015

The fifth annual Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Basura Bash will be held from 9 a.m. to noon Feb. 21 at Salado Creek Park, 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 and can bring their own cleanup gear, such as waders, trash-grabbers, nets, etc. Trash bags will be provided. All participants under 18 must have a parent or guardian onsite and drop offs will not be allowed. All participants must also have a military ID or common access card and sign a waiver to participate. Community service vouchers will be available. Volunteers can register online at http://www.basurabash.org. For more information, call 388-2067.

Wounded Warriors, Families, Transitioners Invited To Career Fair

Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston hosts the bi-annual Hiring Heroes Career Fair from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 4 at the Sam Houston Community Center. The career fair provides an opportunity for wounded warriors, transitioning service members, spouses and veterans to network, collect information and speak face-to-face with more than 58 Department of Defense, federal, and private sector recruiters/employers about civilian career opportunities. Individuals planning to attend are encouraged to have their resumes reviewed. The career fair is hosted by DOD and the Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service (Recruitment Assistance Division) at Alexandria, Va. For more information, call 571-372-2123. For resume assistance, call the Transition Assistance Program office at 221-1213.

Taylor Burk Clinic Enrollments

The Taylor Burk Clinic located at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis provides accessible, high quality healthcare to active duty military, their dependents, and other TRICARE Prime beneficiaries. Hours are 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Call 916-9900 to make an appointment. To switch your Primary Care Manager,

See NEWS BRIEFS, P6

Institute of Surgical Research doc named Geneva Foundation Researcher of the Year

By Steven Galvan
USAISR Public Affairs

The Geneva Foundation recently named Lt. Col. (Dr.) Vikhyat Bebarta the 2014 Researcher of the Year. Bebarta is the director of the 59th Medical Wing's En Route Care Research Center at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

Bebarta is also the chief of medical toxicology in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the San Antonio Military Medical Center and director of clinical resuscitation, Emergency Services, and Toxicology Research Center for the 59th Medical Wing.

According to a Geneva Foundation press release, the award is presented to a researcher who exemplifies the foundation's mission of advancing innovative medical research within the U.S. military, for the benefit of U.S. service members and veterans, their families and the global community.

Photo by Steven Galvan

Lt. Col. (Dr.) Vikhyat Bebarta was named the Geneva Foundation 2014 Researcher of the Year. The award is presented to a researcher who exemplifies the foundation's mission of advancing innovative medical research within the U.S. military, for the benefit of U.S. service members and veterans, their families and the global community.

"I am humbled to receive this prestigious national award recognizing the top military clinical investigator for 2014," Bebarta said.

"The Geneva Foundation's Researcher of the Year Award was established by its scientific advisory board in 2014 as a way to recognize and honor researchers within the U.S. military who have truly shaped military medicine in the delivery of better treatment options, therapies and healthcare practices for our service members and the public at large," said Dr. David Shoultz, Chair of Geneva's Scientific Advisory Board.

"The foundation's scientific advisory board was honored to receive and evaluate nominees from Geneva's management team in areas of research quality, dissemination, mentorship, innovation, collaboration and impact," Shoultz added.

See RESEARCHER, P10

Navy and Marine Corps Relief opens at new San Antonio location

By Petty Officer 1st Class Jacquelyn D. Childs
NMETC Public Affairs

On its 111th birthday, the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society held a grand opening ceremony Jan. 23 for its newest location at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

"There's a big need for a local Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society office," said Rear Adm. Rebecca McCormick-Boyle, commander of the Navy Medicine Education and Training Command. "The Navy and Marine Corps footprint is growing here. We're grateful to the Army and Air Force for all their support up until this point, but now we can have one we can call our own."

NMCRS provides financial assistance, interest-free loans, educational scholarships and other support to Navy and Marine Corps service members and their families. The Army Emergency Relief office at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston has provided that support for Sailors and Marines in the absence of a local NMCRS office.

"We have about 2,500 Navy students, and they come from all walks of life," said Capt. Jamie Hammer, executive officer of the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston-based Navy Medicine Training Support Center, which is administratively responsible for the Navy Hospital Corps training program. Hospital corpsman is the Navy's largest enlisted career field. "Some are young and married. Some have emergencies in their home.

See NMCR, P4

Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Jacquelyn D. Childs

(From left) Rear Adm. Rebecca McCormick-Boyle, Navy Medicine Education and Training Command commander; Sharon Zacharias, Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society San Antonio director; and Wesley Schmidt, NMCRS vice president and chief financial officer cut a celebratory cake at the Jan. 23 grand opening of the NMCRS San Antonio office at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

MISSING from P1

Presidential Unit Citation and the Republic of Korea War Service Medal.

On Nov. 28, 1950, the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces, a division-sized force, attacked the 31st Regimental Combat Team along the Chosin Reservoir.

After intense fighting – which lasted until Dec. 1, 1950 – the unit was forced to abandon its position, leaving its dead behind. As the 31st RCT withdrew, it had to fight through roadblocks, all while receiving fire from the high ground occupied by the Chinese.

After a short pause at Hagaru-ri to evacuate the wounded by air, the 31st RCT survivors joined members of the 1st Marine Division, who then attacked to break out and march to the coast.

At one point, the Chinese blew a bridge over an impassible gorge. The Marines had the Air Force airdrop a bridge which was assembled over the gorge.

Continuing their breakout, the Marines and 385 surviving members of the 31st RCT were evacuated by the Navy after assembling at Hungnam on the coast with the remainder of the X Corps.

Sanchez and his medical comrades battled the cold weather to keep blood plasma from freezing. To keep morphine syrettes from freezing solid, combat medics carried them inside their cold weather gear, taped into their armpits. Many of the casualties during the campaign were cold weather injuries, such as frostbite.

(Retired Lt. Col. John Manguso contributed to this article).

The Fort Sam Houston Caisson Section and Honor Guard Platoon brings Army Sgt. Gilberto Sanchez to his final resting place Jan. 23 at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. A memorial service was held for Sanchez earlier in the day in his hometown of New Braunfels, Texas.

Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Christopher DeHart

The family of Army Sgt. Gilberto Sanchez pay their respects as members of the Fort Sam Houston Caisson Section carry him to the caisson wagon Jan. 23 at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. Sanchez was finally laid to rest after he disappeared in December 1950 during the battle of Chosin Reservoir.

NMCR from P3

Having the NMCRS right here with someone that knows what Navy personnel go through will be wonderful."

The San Antonio office will be led by Sharon Zacharias, the NMCRS Fort Worth Office director and run by a small group of three volunteers including Angelica Botkin, Gloria C. Flores and Latrice Newton.

While not a full-service office, it will be used mostly to process quick-assist loans while providing emergency relief and education.

The San Antonio NMCRS office is collocated with AER in Building 131 at 2414 Stanley Road and can be reached at 221-9819. The hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Botkin said AER will continue to support Sailors and Marines during AER's regular business hours when NMCRS is closed. All service members can contact the American Red Cross after hours for emergency services.

"It's important to remember that the mission of the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society is to help Sailors, Marines and their families in times of financial distress and need," said NMCRS vice president and chief financial officer Wesley Schmidt. "It's to provide them with a helping hand rather than a handout."

NMCRS has more than 60 offices around the country to provide financial assistance and education as well as other programs and services to members of the Navy and Marine Corps and their family.

For more information visit http://www.nmcrs.org.

Army South hosts National Guard State Partnership Program summit

By Sgt. Mahlet Tesfaye
Army South Public Affairs

The State Partnership Program has been building relationships between the U.S. and countries all over the world for more than 20 years through humanitarian operations, disaster relief efforts, emergency response exercises and multi-echelon command and control exercises executed at the operational and tactical level.

The program is a military-to-military engagement administered by the National Guard Bureau, and executed by the state adjutants general in support of security cooperation objectives and foreign policy goals.

U.S. Army South hosted a summit Jan. 21 at its headquarters at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston for the adjutants general of select U.S. Army National Guard forces participating in the SPP to facilitate a direct interaction between participants focused on meaningful and participatory dialogue regarding theater engagement and security cooperation strategies within U.S. Southern Command area of operation.

"The purpose was to bring together select adjutants general from the National Guard SPP to sit down with the commander of Army South to discuss mutual support in security cooperation with in the SOUTHCOM area of responsibility," said Col. Larry Dotson, senior National Guard advisor with Army South.

The SOUTHCOM/Army South area of responsibility encompasses 31 countries and 15 areas of special sovereignty in Central and South America and the Caribbean.

During the summit, Maj. Gen. Joseph P. DiSalvo, Army South's commanding general, stressed the importance of constant communication between the state adjutants general and Army South on the different SPP activities with partner nations for better visibility and coordination.

"There are a lot of well intended activities going on down range in our respective AORs. I think we all are in agreement; the best way we can be effective is by being better coordinated on what's happening," DiSalvo said.

Army National Guard adjutants general from Arkansas (Guatemala), Louisiana (Haiti), Missouri (Panama), New Hampshire (El Salvador), Puerto Rico (Dominican Republic), South Carolina (Colombia), Texas (Chile), West Virginia (Peru), and Wisconsin (Nicaragua); and representatives from National Guard Bureau, SOUTHCOM, Special Operation Command South, Marine Corps Forces South, and Army South senior staff attended the summit.

One of the participants, Maj. Gen. John F. Nichols, Texas National Guard adjutant general, believes in the importance and benefits of the SPP and works with Chile in support of SOUTHCOM's mission.

"I like this because we are meeting with Army South and combining our efforts to make sure all we are doing in SPP supports the needs of America and our partner countries," Nichols said.

One of U.S. Army South's missions is coun-

See ARSOUTH, P10

Photo by Sgt. Mahlet Tesfaye
Officials from U.S. Army South hosted an Adjutants General Summit Jan. 21 at its headquarters on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston. The summit was intended to bring together State Partnership Program participants in U.S. Southern Command area of operation to discuss theater engagement and security cooperation strategies.

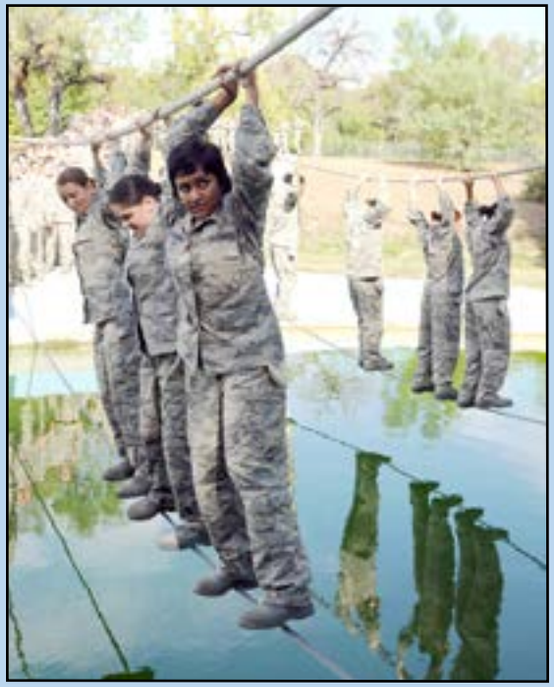

Photo by Senior Airman Krystal Jeffers
Basic military trainees slide across a rope above a pool of water as part of the obstacle course at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Sept. 24, 2014. Air Force Basic Military Training at JBSA-Lackland has restructured its current 8 1/2 week course to make room for a new five-day program called Capstone Week, which began with trainees entering BMT Jan. 27.

Air Force Basic Military Training introduces Capstone Week

By Tech. Sgt. Joshua Strang
Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

Air Force Basic Military Training at Joint base San Antonio-Lackland has restructured its current 8 1/2 week course to make room for a new five-day program called Capstone Week, which began with trainees entering BMT Jan. 27.

"Our Basic Military Training today does a tremendous job developing young men and women into Airmen," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody. "But as we looked at the current structure, we saw an opportunity to further enhance those Airmanship skills with a final week focused entirely on character development. These are core skills every Airman needs to be successful in our Air Force."

The first Capstone Week, which will culminate the BMT experience, begins March 23.

Capstone week's purpose is to give the Air Force one more critical tool to further develop professional, resilient Airmen who are inspired by heritage, committed to its core values, and

See CAPSTONE, P11

News Briefs

Continued from P3

call Humana Military at 800-444-5445.

New DOD Food Service Charges At Dining Facilities

The following rates now apply to dining facilities not using the a la carte pricing system, such as Slagel, Rocco, B5107, B5105, Medical Readiness DFAC and all basic military training facilities: breakfast, $3.45; lunch, $5.55 and dinner, $4.85. In addition, meals ready to eat and flight meals are priced at $5.55 each.

Blast, Gunshot Wound Study at BAMC

People who have sustained a gunshot or blast injury can take part in a Brooke Army Medical Center Department of Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation study investigating the long-term effects of retained metal fragments sustained from combat wounds. Participants must have been injured while deployed by a blast with or without retained metal fragments and it must be more than three months since the injury. Participants must be 18 or older and the study requires one visit, a study questionnaire and a blood draw. Call 916-7879 or 916-9181 for more information.

BAMC Behavioral Medicine Seeks Qualified Dog Teams

The Department of Behavioral Medicine at Brooke Army Medical Center is looking for dog teams to assist in the department's health care mission. Interested owners must present necessary certification documents from a nationally recognized curriculum program at the time of interview. During the interview, teams must demonstrate the animal's ability to respond to the owner's commands. For more information or to set up an interview, call 916-2069 or 916-2096. Bring the animal and all necessary documentation to the interview.\

Burn survivor expresses gratitude to USAISR burn center staff

By Steven Galvan
USAISR Public Affairs

Photo by Steven Galvan
Burn survivor Karen Starrs (center) presents physician assistant Michael Chambers (left) and registered nurse Bethany Martinez (right) from the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center outpatient clinic with framed military coins and thank you notes for the burn center outpatient clinic and intensive care unit.

There are two words that the staff at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center routinely hear: "thank you."

That simple phrase is usually accompanied by a handshake or a hug from a patient, family member or friend and is all the reassurance that the staff needs to know that they are providing the best care for every patient every day.

Karen Starrs and her husband, Ken, went further to express their gratitude for the care she received as a patient in the burn center. They designed a military challenge coin, mounted the coin with a thank you note in a picture frame, and recently presented it to the burn center staff as a token of their appreciation.

"The burn center team is an amazing and dedicated staff," Ken said. "We had to do this. The care that they provided for Karen is unbelievable and is the reason that she is here today."

Ken is not exaggerating. Karen was given a two percent chance of survival. Forty-five percent of her body had been burned and her airway and lungs were severely damaged from smoke inhalation.

January 21, 2013 is the day that changed the Starr's lives and the day that they now celebrate as Karen's "Alive Day."

"It's the anniversary of the miracle," Ken said.

At 5 a.m., that morning the Starrs were awoken by a loud pop in their home at Corpus Christi, Texas. A fire had started and destroyed their home.

"I don't know what caused it, but I was told it was electrical," Ken recalled.

The Starrs' were able to make it outside unharmed, but realized that their pets (a dog, two cats and a bird) were still inside. Ken ran to the garage to rescue the pets, not knowing that Karen had gone back inside the front door to do the same.

"I went in the side door and she went in through the front," Ken said. "Once I realized Karen had gone inside, I tried to

See SURVIVOR, P13

Effects of storm water runoff one element that triggers San Antonio's 21st Annual Basura Bash

By Scott B. Reed
502nd Civil Engineering Environmental Flight

The Basura Bash is a one-day, all-volunteer event to clean the San Antonio Watershed. Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston will be hosting the event beginning at 8 a.m. Feb. 21 at the Salado Creek Park. For more information and registration, go to http://www.basurabash.org/ or call 388-2067.

The effects of storm water runoff are one reason the Basura Bash is necessary. Storm water runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snow melt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks and streets prevent stormwater runoff from naturally soaking into the ground.

Storm water can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland or coastal waterway. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged, untreated, into the bodies of water we use for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water.

Polluted stormwater runoff can have many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals and people.

Sediment can cloud the water and make it difficult or impossible for aquatic plants to grow. Sediment also can destroy aquatic habitats.

Excess nutrients can cause algae blooms. When algae die, they sink to the bottom and decompose in a process that removes oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic organisms can't exist in water with low dissolved oxygen levels.

Bacteria and other pathogens can wash into swimming areas and create health hazards, often making beach closures necessary.

Debris such as plastic bags, six-pack rings, bottles and cigarette butts washed into bodies of water can choke, suffocate or disable aquatic life like ducks, fish, turtles and birds.

Household hazardous wastes like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil and other auto fluids can poison aquatic life. Land animals and people can become sick from eating diseased fish and shellfish or ingesting polluted water.

Polluted stormwater often affects drinking water sources. This, in turn, can affect human health and increase drinking water treatment costs.

What are some solutions for storm water pollution?

In residential areas, recycle paper and plastics and properly dispose of household products that contain chemicals, such as insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents and used motor oil and other auto fluids (i.e. antifreeze). Don't pour them onto the ground or into storm drains. Dispose kitchen grease in garbage to prevent sewer overflows and backups.

In regards to lawn care, excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. Yard clippings and leaves can wash into storm drains and contribute nutrients and organic matter to streams.

San Antonio Water System officials recommend that homeowners avoid overwatering their lawns. Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.

Other suggestions include using pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Use organic mulch or safer pest control methods whenever possible.

When possible, compost or mulch yard waste. Don't leave it in the street or sweep it into storm drains or streams. Also, cover piles of dirt or mulch being used in landscaping projects.

Utilize local climate appropriate lawn maintenance techniques when maintaining your lawn. More information is available at the Garden Style San Antonio website at http://www.gardenstylesanantnio.com.

Washing your car and degreasing auto parts at home can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system. Dumping automotive fluids into storm drains has the same result as dumping the materials directly into a body of water. Use a commercial car wash that treats or recycles its wastewater or wash your car on your yard so the water infiltrates into the ground. Repair leaks and dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop-off or recycling locations.

Pet waste can be a major source of bacteria and excess nutrients in local waters. When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local bodies of water.

Residential landscaping presents its own challenges when it comes to effective storm water runoff as traditional concrete and asphalt doesn't allow water to soak into the ground. Instead, these surfaces rely on storm drains to divert unwanted water. Permeable pavement systems allow rain and snowmelt to soak through, decreasing stormwater runoff.

Homeowners are encouraged to use rain

See BASURA, P10

Photo by Steve Elliott

Kim Cooper (left) and her daughter, Trianne, remove discarded wood and other trash from the banks of Salado Creek Saturday during the 2014 Basura Bash.

SAMMC encourages donations to Armed Services Blood Program

By Shannon Collins
DOD News Features,
Defense Media Activity

San Antonio Military Medical Center officials at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston encourage people to donate to the Armed Services Blood Program, because the blood directly supports warfighters downrange as well as trauma and burn patients there and other military treatment facilities and Veterans Affairs facilities.

"Whether it's a trauma patient, burn patient or one of our patients up in the bone marrow transplant unit who needs blood, we need blood every day," said Mark Salcedo, a blood donor recruiter and public affairs specialist at SAMMC's Akeroyd Blood Donor Center. "Whether it's here in San Antonio, downrange, wherever, we want to make sure our patients have what they need when they need it. That can only happen when we have blood donors. Thank you to the ones who come in to make sure our patients have what they need, and we invite those who are considering donating."

Army Master Sgt. Matthew Aaron Deller learned firsthand the benefits of blood donations. On Dec. 8, 2013, he was starting a fire in his fireplace and didn't know there was a gas leak. It exploded, causing him to be burned over 77 percent of his body. He has since undergone a total of 14 procedures.

Burn patients may not need blood when they are initially seen, but may need blood transfusions during the grafting of their burn wounds during the subsequent surgeries, said Army Lt. Col. (Dr.) Wylan Peterson, deputy director of the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center.

"The excision and grafting of burn wounds causes a significant amount of blood loss," he explained. "As a result, the patients rely on blood transfusions in order to survive these procedures. For example, a patient who suffers from 20 percent total body surface area burn injuries may lose up to three liters or more of blood during surgery."

Peterson said sometimes a burn victim has a rare blood type.

"We have had a few patients who have had rare blood types, which required our blood bank to place citywide requests for blood donors," he said. "These are instances when blood donations make a difference."

Deller said he doesn't know how much blood he has received, but he knows it was quite a bit as he underwent major skin graft work. He said if he met the people who donated the blood he received, he would thank them.

"I would hug them first and just say thank you," he said. "I know that it saved my life."

Deller, who has served in the Army for 17 years, said when he was a first sergeant, his students used to ask him about donating blood and where the blood would go.

"Knowing it was going to fellow Soldiers was a big deal to them," he said. "I'm a combat medic, and I've been deployed a few times. I've seen its direct effect on the battlefield and now being a recipient, it's a big deal. It's huge."

He said if students ask him about the program now, "I'm going to tell them I'm alive because of it, and I'm going to stress the importance of it even more so, because I'm a recipient."

Deller said he was given a negative 12 percent chance of living. When he woke up the first time from his coma, he couldn't wiggle his toes, couldn't breathe on his own, and couldn't do anything without the help of a machine.

"The only thing I had was being able to cry. That was the only thing I had control over, and I did," he said. "After that, I said you know what, I'm going to live, and if I'm going to live, I'm going to do everything I used to do. The rehabilitation staff, the Army-trained physicians and nurses and DOD-trained staff, it's amazing what they do on a day-to-day basis with not just me, but with everybody else who's been through something as traumatic as what I've been through or even worse. I'm very lucky."

Deller said his family and the battle buddies who didn't make it home inspire him in his recovery.

"There's nothing more inspiring than thinking about my children and my friends – those that we've lost, those I've personally lost, and that hits home – and I've just got to stay alive, and I've got to keep fighting to honor their memory and to be there for my own children," he said.

The ASBP provides quality blood products for service members, veterans and their families in both peace and war. As a joint operation among the military services, the many components work together to collect, process, store, distribute and transfuse blood worldwide, said Army Lt. Col. Jose Quesada, chief of blood services at Brooke Army Medical Center.

Each working day, the staff of the Akeroyd Blood Donor Center at Joint Base San Antonio conducts blood drives to support the program. The primary mission of the blood donor center is to support the overseas blood support detachments and medical treatment facilities. Additional products support the San Antonio Military Medical Center's day-to-day requirement for traumas, burn patients and surgical cases.

For more than 60 years, the Armed Services Blood Program has been collecting, processing and distributing blood products for the military community. It operates more than 20 blood donor centers worldwide.

While January was National Blood Donor Month, the need for donations does not cease at the end of the month, because blood is perishable. Quesada encourages everyone to donate to ASBP.

"Without our blood donors, our patients may not go home," he said. "Whether it was blood for a patient here at SAMMC or for a combat casualty overseas, we need blood donors. We thank them for giving a little of themselves to ensure our patients have what they need when they need it. We thank them for their time and support to our missions."

Photo by E.J. Hersom

Army Master Sgt. Matthew Deller recovers from his 14th skin graft procedure at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center at the San Antonio Military Medical Center on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Jan. 13. Deller suffered burns to 77 percent of his body and required blood transfusions following skin graft procedures.

Photo by Steve Elliott

Sgt. 1st Class Keoth Kittle, 232nd Medical Battalion, scoops out plastic bottles and other trash from Salado Creek on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

BASURA from P8

barrels to collect rainwater from rooftops in mosquito-proof containers. The water can be used later on lawn or garden areas.

Additionally, rain gardens and grassy swales are specially designed areas planted with native plants can provide natural places for rainwater to collect and soak into the ground.

Rain from rooftop areas or paved areas can be diverted into these areas rather than into storm drains.

Another landscaping technique is the use of vegetated filter strips, which are areas of native grass or plants created along roadways or streams. They trap the pollutants stormwater picks up as it flows across driveways and streets.

In commercial areas, dirt, oil and debris that collect in parking lots and paved areas can be washed into the storm sewer system and eventually enter the local water supply. Sweep up litter and debris from sidewalks, driveways and parking lots, especially around storm drains. Cover grease storage and dumpsters and keep them clean to avoid leaks.

At JBSA locations, report any chemical spill to the applicable JBSA Fire Department. The 502nd Civil Engineering Squadron's Environmental Flight knows the best way to keep spills from harming the environment.

In construction areas, erosion controls that aren't maintained can cause excessive amounts of sediment and debris to be carried into the stormwater system. Construction vehicles can leak fuel, oil, and other harmful fluids that can be picked up by stormwater and deposited into local bodies of water.

Construction workers should also divert storm water away from disturbed or exposed areas of the construction site.

Other suggestions include installing silt fences, vehicle mud removal areas, vegetative cover and other sediment and erosion controls and properly maintain them, especially after rainstorms.

Prevent soil erosion by minimizing disturbed areas during construction projects and seed and mulch bare areas as soon as possible.

For facilities where auto repairs are performed, clean up spills immediately and properly dispose of cleanup materials. Properly maintain vehicles and utilize a drip pan to prevent oil, gas and other discharges from being washed into local water sources. Recycle paper, plastics, used motor oil, batteries, and antifreeze.

RESEARCHER from P3

Bebarta and the foundation have partnered for more than six years on research projects in emergency medicine, combat casualty care and toxicology.

"The Geneva Foundation is a strong organization that has supported the military clinical investigator for many years and I am fortunate to have received their support," Bebarta said. "While they named me the recipient, the award is a group award describing the achievements of many, not one."

Bebarta acknowledged the collaboration from the research staff at the Air Force En Route Care Research Center; the Air Force CREST; the Air Force 59th Medical Wing; USAISR and the USAISR Joint Trauma System; SAMMC and other sites.

"More importantly, it represents the work to better the survival, the lives, and the families of the Airmen, Marines, Sailors and Soldiers we treat in combat and at home," Bebarta said.

Bebarta was selected from among six finalists including Lt. Col. (Dr.) Luis M. Alvarez, Armed Forces Institute of Regenerative Medicine acting director, U.S. Military Academy; Dr. Andriy I. Batchinsky, USAISR research scientist, combat critical care engineering task area; David J. Fitzgerald, Ph.D., senior investigator, Laboratory of Molecular Biology, National Cancer Institute; Col. (Dr.) Stephen Harrison, SAMMC director of graduate medical education and gastroenterology consultant to the Army Surgeon General; and Patricia S. Steeg, Ph.D., deputy chief, women's malignancies branch, Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute.

ARSOUTH from P5

teracting transnational threats and strengthening regional security in defense of America. In order to sustain its mission, Army South and its supporting units conduct and support multinational operations and security cooperation in the SOUTHCOM area of responsibility through enduring relationship with partner nations.

Some of the operations Army South has been involved with, along with partner nations, through the SPP include Operation Unified Response in Haiti; Beyond the Horizon, a humanitarian and civic assistance operations provided to the people of Central and South America; Fuerzas Aliadas Humanitarias, a regionally oriented emergency response exercise; and PANAMAX, an operational exercise focused on the defense of the Panama Canal by a Multi-National Task Force.

The summit was focused on how to better share information to inform mutually supporting activities and in the spirit of sharing, representatives from each state discussed past, present and future projects with partner nations.

"The most important take away that I captured was the SPP offers enduring access and valuable informative insights to the Army and Air Force and being able to collaborate on shared security objectives helps everybody involved in security cooperation," Dotson said.

DiSalvo commended the SPP participants for their great work on fostering and maintaining relationships with their partner countries in support of security cooperation.

"You all in your respective states do a good job with your partner countries," DiSalvo said to the adjutants generals. "For us at the Army South and SOUTHCOM levels to have visibility into that is very important."

Photo by Sgt. Mahlet Tesfaye

Maj. Gen. John F. Nichols (left), Texas National Guard adjutant general, speaks with Chilean Maj. Gen. Edmundo Villarroel Geissbuhler, a U.S. Army South partner nation liaison counterpart, during an Adjutants General summit hosted by Army South Jan. 21 at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston. The summit was intended to bring together State Partnership Program participants in U.S. Southern Command area of operation to discuss theater engagement and security cooperation strategies.

ARMY IS ALL IN THE FAMILY

Photo by Army Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos

Simeon Trombitas Jr. (right) took the first step of his Army career Jan. 23 when his father, Maj. Gen. Simeon Trombitas, U.S. Army North deputy commanding general, administered the oath of enlistment to him at the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Military Entrance Processing Station. Simeon Jr., a senior at Smithson Valley High school in Spring Branch, Texas, enlisted in the Army as a combat documentation/production specialist with combat camera. He is scheduled to attend basic training in August.

CAPSTONE from P5

motivated to deliver airpower. While BMT will still provide new Airmen the same high level of military and physical training, Capstone Week serves to specifically concentrate on character building.

"We developed Capstone Week to better prepare Airmen for their first assignments by reinforcing our core values of integrity, service and excellence through an interactive environment emphasizing character development, the profession of arms, and our Air Force heritage," said Gen. Robin Rand, commander of Air Education and Training Command. "The course focuses on the importance of every Airman treating each other with respect and dignity, better preparing them to become skilled warriors ready to do our nation's business."

Capstone Week will provide instruction and promote discussion among Airmen in a more interactive forum than the highly-structured BMT curriculum, according to Kevin Adelsen, AETC Capstone Week program manager.

Some key areas that Capstone Week will cover include wingmanship, resiliency, leadership and followership, sexual assault prevention and response, the warrior ethos, and how Airmen can balance their personal and professional lives.

Adelsen said BMT schedule adjustments allowed for condensing the current training to make room for the Capstone transition period.

"We'll retain all current BMT requirements in the first seven-and-a-half weeks and use the Capstone Week to reinforce and expand on previous training," said Adelsen.

Following the traditional Airman's parade at the end of BMT's first seven-and-a-half weeks, trainees will transition that weekend to a Capstone squadron. Airmen will move into a revamped training facility on Lackland and experience Capstone Week in an environment far different from that of the first part of BMT, according to Adelsen.

Capstone will be a BMT graduation requirement, Adelsen said. Immediately following Capstone, Airmen will travel to their designated technical training locations across the United States.

"BMT's Capstone Week will ensure Air Force basic training remains a center of excellence and our Airmen remain the best fighting force in the world," said Chief Master Sgt. Gerardo Tapia, AETC command chief.

"It's a fantastic and innovative way to ensure we prepare Airmen to become men and women of character."

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston community celebrates lasting legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Photos by Esther Garcia

Maj. Gen. Steve Jones, commanding general, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, and host for the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration delivers welcoming remarks Jan. 19 at the Fort Sam Houston Theater.

By Esther Garcia
AMEDDC&S Public Affairs

The Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston community gathered at the historic Fort Sam Houston Theatre Jan. 21 to celebrate the birthday and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Maj. Gen. Steve Jones, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School commanding general and host for the celebration, delivered the welcoming remarks.

"When we celebrate his dream, we celebrate the American dream, the dream that includes service to our nation and to others," Jones said. "As we celebrate let us remain mindful that we build a stronger nation by promoting diversity, fostering inclusive behavior and promoting a sincere respect for others."

The ceremony began with the reading of a proclamation signed by President Barack Obama urging American citizens to observe the day with appropriate civic, community and service projects in honor of King.

A short video was then shown, featuring members of the JBSA community sharing what Martin Luther King legacy means to them.

Lt. Col. Tonya Collins from the 106th Signal Brigade read a poem she wrote titled "Keep Dreaming," which reflected on the meaning of Dr. King's contributions. Sgts. 1st Class Christopher Whitacker and Mardio Lattimore performed a rendition of "America the Beautiful."

Cole High School students with the performing arts debate class read phrases from a poem titled, "Still I Rise" written by Maya Angelou and from Dr. King's famous "I Have A Dream" speech.

Guest speaker, Christopher Herring, chairman of the Texas Association of African-American Chambers of Commerce and a retired Air Force officer, spoke about a committed life. In his current position, Herring works with more than 200,000 African-American business owners in Texas.

"Are you living a committed life? How will people remember you?" Herring said. "What will your life's legacy be when your time comes?"

Herring encouraged the audience to look at their lives, contribute to society, stand up to be counted and do something that they have never done before. He also said that the secret to success is education.

"Yes, if you want to say that I was a drum major, say that I was a drum major for justice," Herring said, quoting King. "Say that I was a drum major for peace. I was a drum major for righteousness and all of the other shallow things will not matter. I won't have any money to leave behind. I won't have the fine and luxurious things of life to leave behind. But I just want to leave a committed life behind. And that's all I want to say."

Members of the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Equal Opportunity Nation joined tens of thousands of people from the local and surrounding communities Jan. 19 attending the 28th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. March. The 2.5-mile march traveled along Martin Luther King Drive and ended at Pittman-Sullivan Park with a ceremony including speeches, music and food for the marchers.

INSIDE THE GATE

Rodeo Tickets

The Ticket Office in the Sam Houston Event Center has tickets available for the following shows at the San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo: Thursday, Joe Nichols; Feb. 13, Hunter Hayes; Feb. 17, Newsboys; Feb. 18, Cole Swindell; Feb. 21, Dan & Shay; Feb. 22, Banda Los Recoditos; Feb. 24, Justin Moore; Feb. 26, Jeff Foxworthy; and Feb. 28, Josh Abbott Band. The tickets are for seats in Section 104 and are good for entry into the rodeo grounds and the concert. For more information, call 808-1378.

Valentine's Couples Nite-Ball Golf Tournament

Do you and your love share a passion for golf? The Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Golf Club invites all Department of Defense ID cardholders to register as a team or sign up as an individual for a two-person team scramble Feb. 13, with a 4:30 p.m. shotgun start. Cost is $25 for members or $35 for nonmembers and includes green fees, shared cart, tickets for door prizes, post-tournament meal and all prizes. Call 222-9386.

Love Languages For Couples

Friday, Feb. 13 and 20, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Learn your partner's love language and improve your understanding of each other, while exploring your communication styles together. Call 221-0349 to register.

Anger/Stress Management

Tuesday, Feb. 17 and 24, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., building 3387. A comprehensive anger program for those who want to examine the different causes of stress and learn techniques to more effectively cope with anger and stress in a group setting. Call 292-5967.

Love And Logic

Thursday, Feb. 12, 19 and 26, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., building 3387. Learn practiced techniques to help parents with all ages to raise responsible kids, have more fun in their roles and easily and immediately change their child's behavior. Call 292-5967.

METC Student Intramural Coed Softball League

The Medical Education and Training Campus Student Intramural Sports Office is accepting letters of intent for teams interested in the spring coed softball league. Team entry requires a LOI from the unit or organization signed by the sports advisory representative. The LOI must be received by Feb. 23. A coaches/rules meeting will be held at noon Feb. 26 at the Fitness Center on the METC, room 115. League play begins March 3. All games will be played at Pershing Ball Park. Call 808-5707 or 808-5709.

OUTSIDE THE GATE

All-Army Drill Meet

The 5th Army ROTC Brigade All-Army Drill Meet takes place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center, 200 E. Market St. Free parking is available at the Federal Courthouse Building. Call 295-2014 for more information.

FORT FREEBIES FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Set of four hand-painted wine glasses, blue flowers and green leaf pattern, $15; solid wood flat screen TV stand and entertainment cabinet, 60 inches wide by 25 inches high by 22 inches deep, beveled glass doors with room for four home theater/cable components, $150; call 495-2296.

FORT SAM HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR

FRIDAY

Girls' basketball vs. Marion: junior varsity at 5 p.m., varsity at 6:30 p.m.; Marion High School, 506 Bulldog Drive, Marion, Texas.

SATURDAY

UIL Solo and Ensemble Constest: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sam Houston High School, 4635 E. Houston St., San Antonio.

MONDAY

Student council meeting: 3-4:30 p.m., Fort Sam Houston Elementary School library, 4351 Nursery Road.

TUESDAY

Parent to Parent-Tackling Homework Issues: 8:15-9:15 a.m., Fort Sam Houston Elementary School, Room 51, 4351 Nursery Road.

Baseball: 4:40-7 p.m., junior varsity and varsity scrimmage vs. Sam Houston High School, Cole High School, 1900 Winans Road.

Girls' basketball vs. Natalia: junior varsity, 5 p.m.; varsity, 6 p.m.; Cole High School, 1900 Winans Road.

WEDNESDAY

Fort Sam Houston Elementary School class photos: Fort Sam Houston Elementary School, Room 51, 4351 Nursery Road.

SURVIVOR from P7

reenter through the front door, but was hit by a rush of flame and smoke that drove me back into the yard."

Ken made it back inside and was able to get Karen out, who wasn't breathing. With a chest compression, Ken revived his wife.

Karen was taken to a local hospital where Ken was told that his wife needed to be transferred to the burn center in San Antonio. He was initially told Karen would be airlifted to the burn center, but preparations were made to transfer her by ambulance due to foggy weather.

"In the last minute, I was told that the fog had lifted enough and that they would be able to airlift Karen to San Antonio," Ken said. "I was advised later if they would have taken her by ambulance, she would not have made it, because of the smoke inhalation."

Chris Boyd, a nurse at the burn center intensive care unit remembers when Karen was admitted. "Her condition was very serious," he said.

The Starr family was told to be prepared for a roller-coaster ride with good news one day, followed by setbacks.

On April 9, 2014, after numerous medical procedures, countless hours of rehabilitation, healing milestones and setbacks, Karen was released from the burn center to a rehabilitation center in Corpus Christi. Ken recalls what he and his family have gone through as a family during the past two years.

"I still get emotional thinking about it," said Ken, who is a law enforcement officer in Corpus Christi. "But here we are now and we owe it all to the great work done by the entire staff at this burn center."

The Starrs presented the framed gifts to the Col. (Dr.) Evan Renz, commander of the Brooke Army Medical Center and the director of the burn center in 2013; the San Antonio Military Medical Center Ear, Nose and Throat Department; the Burn Center Outpatient Clinic; and the Burn Center Intensive Care Unit.

"It's uncalled for," Boyd said. "But it's amazing and awesome. It makes us feel good to get the 'thank you' and recognition."

The Starrs have built a new home in the same location in Corpus Christi where the other house was destroyed by the fire, where they now live with their pets, except for the bird, who did not survive the fire.

Life for the Starrs is back to their new normal.

Designing the military challenge coin and presenting it to the staff at the burn center and SAMMC was something the Starrs felt they had to do to show their appreciation.

"Words cannot describe the gratitude that we have for the care that the staff gave Karen," Ken said. "She wouldn't be here without them."

FORT SAM HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Exhibit C-3

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds

Year Ended August 31, 2014

Data Control Codes		10 General Fund	60 Capital Projects Funds	Other Governmental Funds	98 Total Governmental Funds
	Revenues				
5700	Local and intermediate sources	$ 34,614	$ -	$ 2,004,691	$ 2,039,305
5800	State program revenues	12,162,932	-	179,162	12,342,094
5900	Federal program revenues	8,054,435	50,268	1,588,836	9,693,539
5000	Total revenues	20,251,981	50,268	3,772,689	24,074,938
	Expenditures				
	Current:				
0011	Instruction	8,965,598	-	1,838,285	10,803,883
0012	Instructional resources and media services	281,759	-	-	281,759
0013	Curriculum development and instructional staff development	218,534	-	365,787	584,321
0021	Instructional leadership	179,125	-	266,700	445,825
0023	School leadership	1,125,817	-	5,760	1,131,577
0031	Guidance, counseling, and evaluation services	505,439	-	288,078	793,517
0033	Health services	203,838	-	107,533	311,371
0034	Student (pupil) transportation	758,010	-	15,761	773,771
0035	Food services	17,723	-	674,687	692,410
0036	Cocurricular/extracurricular activities	577,556	-	-	577,556
0041	General administration	900,848	3,082	26,019	929,949
0051	Plant maintenance and operations	2,031,484	-	44,107	2,075,591
0052	Security and monitoring services	78,079	-	-	78,079
0053	Data processing services	939,525	-	44,103	983,628
0081	Facilities acquisition and construction	-	405,935	7,802	413,737
0093	Payments related to shared services arrangement	1,139,007	-	-	1,139,007
6030	Total expenditures	17,922,342	409,017	3,684,622	22,015,981
1100	Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	2,329,639	(358,749)	88,067	2,058,957
1200	Net change in fund balances	2,329,639	(358,749)	88,067	2,058,957
0100	Fund balances (deficit) at beginning of year	15,826,080	266,291	77,948	16,170,319
3600	Fund balances at end of year	$ 18,155,719	$ (92,458)	$ 166,015	$ 18,229,276

The financial statement notes are an integral part of this statement.