



JULY 24, 2015
 VOL. 57, NO. 29

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

SAN ANTONIO MILITARY MEDICAL CENTER



HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED
 AS ONE OF THE NATION'S

**MOST WIRED
 HOSPITALS FOR 2015**

SAMMC HAS RECEIVED THIS
 RECOGNITION FOUR YEARS IN A ROW



SAMMC CHOSEN AS 'MOST WIRED'

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Doctors perform BAMC's first robot-assisted pediatric surgery

By Elaine Sanchez
 Brooke Army Medical Center Public Affairs

A 2-year-old boy has a shot at a better quality of life, thanks to a robot and a few skilled surgeons.

Doctors at Brooke Army Medical Center on Fort Sam Houston performed surgery on Jose Collado Jr., son of Army Maj. Jose Collado and his wife Alma, last month to remove a large cystic mass from behind his bladder. The procedure marks BAMC's first robot-assisted pediatric surgery.

"The surgery was very successful," said Army Lt. Col. (Dr.) Thomas Novak, BAMC chief of pediatric urology. "We were incredibly pleased at the outcome and at the impact we made on Jose's future quality of life."

The Collados first brought their infant son to BAMC two years ago, hoping to pave a better future for Jose.

Jose had been diagnosed shortly after birth with polymicrogyria, a rare malformation of the human brain that can cause problems with eyesight, seizures and developmental and motor delays. Along with these issues, which include legal blindness, Jose also had a cystic mass behind his bladder.

As a number of specialists addressed Jose's eyesight, seizures and development, Novak focused on his cystic mass.

Due to the size, the mass was likely to cause bladder and bowel problems later in life, he explained. However, he was hesitant to perform surgery while Jose was still an infant, particularly in the



Photo by Robert Shields

Army Maj. (Dr.) George Kallingal (left), a urologic oncologist, showcases a robotic surgical system while Army Lt. Col. (Dr.) Thomas Novak, Brooke Army Medical Center's chief of pediatric urology, looks on at San Antonio Military Medical Center July 6.

absence of symptoms. The doctor advised the concerned parents to hold off on surgery until their baby had an opportunity to grow.

From the beginning, the doctor thought a robotic approach would be ideal.

Robotic technology has been a surgery staple at BAMC for several years, but until now, was reserved solely for adults. Novak had long since noted the success of robot-aided pediatric surgery in other parts of the country, particularly for urologic cases, and felt it could have a place at BAMC.

"It's definitely not mainstream," he said. "But there are a handful of people who have

practices focused on pediatric robotic urology."

Robotic technology, Novak explained, offers numerous benefits: it's minimally invasive, more agile in small spaces, offers 3-D high resolution magnification for better views of the surgical site, and typically involves a quicker recovery time.

"The robot has movements analogous to a hand," Novak said. "You can move with complete free range of motion and obtain a much better visual as you go deeper and into tighter spaces."

In Jose's case, Novak saw the potential to move toward the

Editorial Staff

502nd Air Base Wing/JBSA
Commander

Brig. Gen. Bob LaBrutta

502nd ABW/JBSA
Public Affairs Chief
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502nd ABW Command
Information Chief
Karla L. Gonzalez

Writer/Editor
Steve Elliott

Writer/Editor
L. A. Shively

Layout Artist
Joe Funtanilla

News Leader office:

2080 Wilson Way
Building 247, Suite 211
JBSA-Fort Sam Houston
TX 78234-5004
210-221-1031
DSN 471-1031

News Leader Advertisements:

EN Communities
P.O. Box 2171
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News Leader email:

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

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Commentary: Mission and Installation Contracting Command stands ready for promising new future

By Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Gabbert
Commanding General,
Mission and Installation
Contracting Command

More than 500 days ago, I accepted the colors of the Mission and Installation Contracting Command. In addressing the men and women in the formation that day, I challenged, "During this period of fiscal uncertainty, we must do our part to keep the Army strong. This will take every man and woman within our formation to be dedicated to innovative contracting solutions to ensure we maintain a highly capable Army within our budgetary constraints."

It is my respect for those people who answered my challenge that permits me to report the contributions of our organization with such pride in its present achievements, but also with full confidence in its future.

I am proud to say the MICC is transforming and would be unrecognizable today to those who knew it just a few years ago;

and that speaks volumes about the abilities and flexibilities of our people, Soldiers and civilians alike. Both have such deep strength and capability – strategic, financial and human.

Integrated and working together, we are tackling the transformation of a culture while, at the same time, meeting the needs of our Army customers. The fulcrum of this transformation is an expectation that each individual, regardless of rank or position, is treated with dignity and respect.

While that expectation is not and should not be unusual in today's Army, this unit's collective response to that expectation has reaffirmed my faith that people who were dealt with squarely would yield a fair and honest return.

That return appears in different places and manifests itself in diverse ways – in innovation and efficiency, in caring for the command and for each other, and in renewed commitment to



Photo by Daniel Elkins

Following more than 500 days in command, Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Gabbert believes the transformation of the Mission and Installation Contracting Command in that time would make it unrecognizable today to those who knew it just a few years ago. Gabbert is the MICC commanding general.

the acquisition principles and Army Values we hold dear. Three outgrowths best define the enduring MICC transformation.

First, we are well into implementing the MICC 2025 initiative, which commits the command to situating the right people

with the right skills in the right places to deliver for the Army Materiel Command the most efficient and effective contracting organization the Army can afford. You might find it surprising that we are already close to completing all actions associated with this initiative.

Second, we have established the Command Contracting Operations Metrics, an interactive measurement initiative to increase our collective focus and discipline and to improve the organization's performance in 18 specific operational contracting areas. Our progress with metrics is clearly visible over the last six quarters.

Third, we have deployed the Contracting Tactical Operations Center – an application built by a contracting office for use by a contracting office – at all MICC locations to give leaders the day-to-day, real-time acquisition-specific business intelligence they need to manage operations across the com-

mand from anywhere in the world.

The command stands ready for the promising new future ahead of it – a future in which each member of the MICC team has a role and works consciously to redefine. United and striving toward the goal together, every one of us needs to understand our role in making the MICC the contracting center of excellence.

The MICC will remain the long-term leader in the contracting field, the best value proposition for Army customers, and an organizational home for a prized collection of some of the finest acquisition minds and resources in the nation. We at the MICC are quite conscious of the legacy we're privileged to bear forward and the responsibility each member of the team has to ensure we succeed, not for ourselves, but for all of those who depend on us to fulfill the fullest and best meaning of our motto, "Contracting for Soldiers."

Five social media tips for military leaders with personal accounts

By Capt. Tyler Mitchell
120th Public Affairs Attachment
Indianapolis, Ind.

Five years ago an article like this probably wouldn't exist because so many leaders in the military either didn't understand social media or didn't want to have

anything to do with it.

Times are changing. Facebook alone now has more than 1.44 billion active monthly users, many of which are leaders in the military community.

Leaders are people too. They want to share information and communicate

like anyone else. Leadership comes with responsibilities. As a leader, you need to consider what you post onto your personal account.

Here are five tips to help you use social media on your personal time while being employed by the military.

1) Learn to protect your unit's brand

Like it or not, when the civilian community sees your posts, they look at you as someone representing the military. Many Americans know what rank equals in military status. Perhaps you should think twice before

you wear your uniform for your next big profile picture.

What you say on the Internet can be used for Uniform Code of Military Justice action if your organization sees fit. If you're going to post

See **SOCIAL**, P9



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News Briefs

North New Braunfels, Harry Wurzbach West Access Control Points Open In Mornings

The North New Braunfels Access Control Point, located by the Quadrangle, and the Harry Wurzbach West ACP, also known as the Pershing Gate, are open from 5:30-8:30 a.m. Mondays through Fridays, except on federal holidays, according to the 502nd Security Forces Squadron.

EES/WAPS Briefing Team Visits JBSA Friday, Monday

Personnel from Headquarters Air Force and the Air Force Personnel Center will visit Joint Base San Antonio locations Friday and Monday to share information about Enlisted Evaluation System and Weighted Airman Promotion System changes. During the briefing, EES/WAPS subject matter experts will speak about changes that have already been implemented, those slated for implementation in the months ahead and the reasons and philosophy behind the changes. For more information about the changes, visit <http://myperf.af.mil>, select "enlisted" under the active duty, Guard or Reserve dropdown menus, then select "evaluations" in the left column. To view the EES/WAPS Roadshow preview video, visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FZK_n9m0jrk. Briefing times and locations for JBSA-Randolph Friday are: base populace brief No. 1, 8-9:30 a.m., Fleenor Auditorium, building 100; base populace brief No. 2, 10-11:30 a.m., Fleenor Auditorium; senior leader brief, 12:30-2 p.m. at the AFPC commander's conference room, building Bldg. 499; Force Support Squadron brief, 2:30-4 p.m. at the AFPC commander's conference room. At JBSA-Lackland Monday at the Bob Hope Theater, building 5408, the senior leaders brief is from 8-9:30 a.m., base populace brief No. 1 is 10-11:30 a.m., base populace brief No. 2 is from 12:30-2 p.m. and the FSS brief is from 2:30-4 p.m. The briefing for JBSA-Fort Sam Houston will be streamed live 8-9:30 a.m. Friday to Blessie Hall, Bldg. 2841.

New Joint Base San Antonio Website Now Online

The Joint Base San Antonio website has a new look and includes easier access to family-related resources. Visit the new site at <http://www.JBSA.mil>.

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Army Reservist receives leadership award

By Capt. Malinda Pennell
ARNORTH Army Reserve
Engagement Cell Public Affairs

Army Reserve Capt. Nicholas Dolezal of U.S. Army North was recently selected as a recipient of the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award in Washington, D.C.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond Odierno recognized 28 company-grade commissioned and warrant officers May 29 for epitomizing the ideals of the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Leadership Awards – duty, honor, country. Award recipients come from the active Army, National Guard and Army Reserve.

Dolezal is assigned to Army North and the Army Reserve Engagement Cell, working in the G-3 Future Operations Cell as a planner.

"Earning this award

is a testament to the quality of leadership that I have had throughout my military career," Dolezal said. "After finding out about the award, I thought back on parts of my military career and realized that without those leaders I would not be where I am now and would not have had this opportunity."

Each award winner received an engraved 15-pound bronze bust of MacArthur from Odierno and a MacArthur Foundation representative. The Association of the United States Army also presented each winner with an engraved commemorative watch.

"This is truly an astonishing accomplishment for which all of these recipients should be very proud," Odierno said. "It is important that leaders continue to maintain their professionalism and seek



Photo by Brig. Gen. Peter A. Bosse

Army Reserve Capt. Nicholas Dolezal of U.S. Army North (center), is flanked by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond Odierno (left) and retired Marine Col. William Davis, executive director of the General Douglas MacArthur Foundation, at the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award ceremony May 29 in Washington, D.C.

advancement. It is imperative to stay ahead of the game with the impending draw down and forced budget constraints. We must continue to build strong company grade leaders to ensure we remain a well-trained force."

"Don't ever stop learning; professionally, personally, spiritually, and from those around you," Dolezal said. "Everyone – whether they are a subordinate, peer or a superior – have something to offer you, whether it be good or

bad. Take the good, take note of the bad and put those lessons in your kit bag. Even if you don't think so at the time; those lessons will resurface at some point in your career and having that knowledge will reap dividends for you."



By Elaine Sanchez
BAMC Public Affairs

For the fourth consecutive year, the San Antonio Military Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston has been named one of the nation's "Most Wired" medical facilities for its innovative use of health information technology.

The Hospitals and Health Networks magazine named only two U.S. Army Medical Command facilities as "Health Care's

SAMMC earns fourth straight 'Most Wired' honor for health information technology

"Most Wired" out of more than 2,213 U.S. hospitals. SAMMC and Madigan Army Medical Center on Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., were among the 338 organizations that made the list.

"Being selected for 'Most Wired' is a great honor; we should be proud of this accomplishment," said Army Lt. Col. David Bowen, SAMMC chief information officer. "I'm very proud to be a part of this winning team."

To be named "Most Wired," hospitals must

meet requirements in the following areas: infrastructure; business and administrative management; clinical; quality and safety (inpatient and outpatient hospital); and clinical integration (ambulatory, physician, patient and community). This year, hospitals also were required to demonstrate meaningful use of technology.

SAMMC was recognized for demonstrating some of the most advanced IT use and adoption in the nation, Bowen noted.

"It's exciting to use technology to connect with patients and improve not just care delivery but the overall health of our military community," he said.

Bowen spotlighted one program that has sparked considerable improvement in patient engagements.

In 2013, Southern Regional Medical Command offered BAMC the opportunity to integrate, test and clinically evaluate iMedConsent. The goal of this project, he explained, was to

adapt and deploy an electronic consent solution.

The program prepares procedure-specific, user-friendly consent forms for medical and surgical procedures, patient education documents, advance directives and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, or HIPAA, disclosures.

The forms are in an easy-to-read format that ensures clear communication of risks, expectations and alternatives. The electronic sign, or

See WIRED, P8

Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center's family health clinic adds 1,000 appointments per month

By Staff Sgt. Michael Ellis
59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

Through process improvements and increased efficiencies, 59th Medical Wing group practice managers found a way to add 12,000 more appointment slots in a single clinic over the next year.

One of the wing's busiest clinics, the Wilford Hall Family Health Clinic provides quality, patient-centered care to 36,000 TRICARE beneficiaries annually. When a recent surge of provider turn-overs led to a shortage of appointments in the clinic, wing GPMs began looking for a solution.

GPMs monitor access to care and identify factors negatively impacting that access, explained Maj. Ryan Yates, 59th MDW group practice manager.

"As members of the group staff, we act as advisors to the clinics. We advise, counsel and generate the reports and analysis for clinic, group and wing leaders. With the information we provide they are able to make the final decision as to which recommendations to implement," he said.

High turnover rates in the family health clinic resulted in a significant decrease in appointment slots as the outgoing providers saw fewer patients leading up to their departure.

Meanwhile, new providers worked according to transition schedules. During this orientation period which normally lasts a few weeks, new providers see fewer patients to allow them time to complete inprocessing and credentialing.

"We offered provider-by-provider analysis for each doctor in family practice and presented courses of action on how to minimize the impact on patient care and ensure they are on track with the Air Force's prescribed minimum number for patient-centered medical home clinics," Yates said.

Yates and his team briefed the situation and solutions at many different levels.

"When roadblocks hindering the improvement process arose, we got creative, devised new metrics and ways to show our access issues."

Wing GPMs also brainstormed solutions to increase the time allotted for administrative tasks and to devote to



Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Josie Walck

The efforts of a team of group practice managers at the 59th Medical Wing, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, are slated to add 1,000 additional appointment slots per month in the Family Health Clinic. The Family Health Clinic is one of the busiest clinics around the wing and provides care to 36,000 TRICARE beneficiaries annually.

new processes like MiCare (<https://www.micare.va.gov/Portal/Index.aspx>), an on-line service offering efficient electronic exchange between patients and their healthcare team.

Changes resulting from the GPMs observations and analysis include increasing clinic leaders' patient load, standardizing time allotted for administrative duties, and restructuring staff schedules to bring more providers on each shift.

As changes were made and other limiting factors were eliminated, the clinic recaptured lost time and put it back in patient care. The successful efforts at the clinic reflect the wing's dedication to continually looking for ways to better the patient experience and increase access to care.

To make an appointment at the clinic, call the Consult & Appointment Management Office at 916-9900. TRICARE beneficiaries can also make an appointment online – and access their personal health data or communicate with their health care providers – through the patient portal at <https://www.tricareonline.com/portal/page/portal/TricareOnline/Portal>. For more information about the Family Health Clinic, visit [http://www.59mdw.af.mil/departments\(clinics\)/familyhealth.asp](http://www.59mdw.af.mil/departments(clinics)/familyhealth.asp).

Congratulations to the 2015 JBSA master sergeant selects

The Air Force released the 2015 master sergeant promotion list July 7. There were 23,619 Airmen eligible for promotion in the 15E7 cycle. Only 5,301 were selected with a 22.44 percent selection rate Air Force wide.

From Joint Base San Antonio, there are 277 selectees.

Fort Sam Houston: Melissa Bridges, John Cardenas, Salvator Demarti, Andre Denson, Shawn Elmandorf; Vanessa Flores, Watson Hernandez, Jesus Herrera, Terry Hillger, Kori Hillman, Marcus Hunter Jr., Julie Jeffords, Sean Keene, Valerie Lee, Candice Lesane, Carmen Matta, Tracey Rickert, Shayalondra Sims, Jonathan Smith, Sarah Stassen, Wesley Surber, Talia Walters, Mechal Webb, Maren Whelpley and Jane Wild.

Camp Bullis: Thomas Humphreys, Lakisha Mount, Luis Najarmarin and Richelle Rodriguez.

JBSA-Lackland: Sonia Abridello, Jesse Adams, Justin Alexander, Jared Allemand, Ramon Alvarez, Valeria Andrade, Antonio Araujo Jr., Rebeca Archuleta, Clarence Armas, Clinton Armstrong, Vontae Ashford, Shawn Austin, David Bard, Adam Barraclough, Melissa Beaushaw, Graciela Bewley, Nathan Bonds, Tarshae Bowman, John Bozeman, Leonor Branch, James Brant, Vincent Brasher, King Bricker, Ryan Brown, Kelly Bruce, Matthew Burdick, Nerissa Campbell, Shani Clack, Crystal Cline, Michael Clunn, Brandy Collins, Christine Collins, Rebecka Composano, Jason Coombs, James Correll, Carlos Cortez, Patton Cortijo, Jamaal Cottrell, Javon Craig, Micheal Crawford, Anthony Daniels, Stacey Davis, Michael Day, Aaron Deardorff, Troy Dontigney, Thomas Dow Jr., Donna Drummond, Daniel Elias, Latoria Ellis, Matthew Erickson, Larry Evert, Manuel Fernandez, Rodriguez Ferraro, Joshua Finkbeiner, Christ Franckowiak, Nathan Funkhouser, McClintock Garcia, Eric Garretson, Anna Garrett, Jeremy Gerberick, Jennifer Gonzalez, Jesus Gonzalez, Manuel Gonzalez, Gholston Gray, John Grice, Daniel Gutierrez, Victor Gutierrez, Eric Hammons, Joshua Haney, Enden Harrington, Richard Hotchkiss, Breezy Hughes, Darnell Ingram, Christopher Inman, Michelle James, Corey Jeanblanc, Christopher Johnson, Aaron Jones, Jeffrey Kallhoff, Scott Karter, Robert Kaufman, Ryan Kees, Cameron Kemp, Kara Kendall, Thomas Klajder, Keyactha Knight, Robert Knight, Michael Krause, Mark Kroll, Elissa Kyle, Lynn Lawrence Jr., Joshua Leiner, Travis Leonard, Nathaniel Lette, Julius Levy, Faaiuas Lilo Jr., Micheal Locke, Benjamin Lockwood, Lashawnte Love, Antroine Lovett, Bradley Lykins, Jeremy Mapalo, Laurel Maples, Reymundo Marquez, Antonio Marrero, Salvador Martinez-Vaquera, John Matheson, Akira Matsumura, Tashina McKnight, Patrick Meade, Shan Meghani, Jose Mercado, Luis Mercado Jr., Elizabeth Mickelsen, Michael Milk, Angela Miranda, Victoria Mitchell, Anthony Modeste, Lilibeth Moeller, Joan Moniz, Stephen Mooney, Anthony Morell, Crystal Moronta, Andrew Morrow, Anthony Mott, Russell Mullens, Jennifer Naranjo, Jose Nazario, Yeleen Neeley, Rene Ochoa, Yanira Ochoa, Wendell Olivier, Kenneth Osborne, Casey Ouellette, Christopher Owens, Amy Palm, Akeem Parks, Jeremy Patenaude, Stephanie Pena, Ian Perry, Shane Poole, Andrew Post, Janice Presha, Melody Redding, Gabriel Rendon, Martin Rhinehart, Michael Riley, Ryan Rios, Joshua Roberts, Saul Rodriguez, Jennifer Roomsburg, Danny Rosa, Caleb Rose, Jennifer Russell, Michael Salinas, Robert Schaub, Nina Sellers, Jason Sharp, George Shepherd, Rico Sison, Cory Sivertson, Adam Smith, Laura Smith, Christopher Sojot, Sylvia Sowers, David Stanford, Tommy Stidham, Lacey Stokes, Jeremy Stranges, Latonya Stuart, Taylor Sullivan, Michelle Swartz, Bobby Thomas Jr., Javie Torresrivera, Matias Trevino Jr., Daniel Trudeau, Alberto Trujillo, Omar Vargas, Gary Verduco, Julio Vizcarrondo, Mary Weaver, David White, Sylvia White, James Williams, Kimberly Williams, Kuturah Williams, Shannon Wilson, Crystal Ybarra, Demarcus Young, Qwanzetta Young, Sergio Zamora Jr., Matthew Zavala, Matthew Zilisch, Grier Zimmerman and Jeremy Zimmerman.

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Courtesy photo

News Briefs

Continued from P3

Traffic Flow Altered Near Fort Sam Houston Elementary

The traffic flow at the intersection of Nursery and Williams Roads near Fort Sam Houston Elementary School on Fort Sam Houston will be altered through Aug. 23. The project realigns the intersection from a "Y" intersection to a 90-degree intersection, which JBSA civil engineers said will improve traffic flow and safety. Since this construction is timed to take place during the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District summer vacation, it should have negligible impact on the school. Provisions will be made for the shoulders alongside Nursery and Williams Roads to be used as vehicle lanes to allow traffic to continue to flow in both the northbound and southbound directions during construction. Once traffic is diverted to the shoulders, the construction contractor will close the main lanes of Nursery and Williams Roads to rebuild the intersection. Biesenbach Road, in front of the school, will carry eastbound and westbound traffic between Nursery and Williams Roads.

Stray Animals Notice For Fort Sam Houston Residents

Many stray or roaming animal sightings are near residences. The stray or roaming animals are seeking food, water and shelter. Although this is not necessarily a housing problem, housing officials ask that residents refrain from feeding any animal that does not belong to them or that is running wild on Fort Sam Houston. If stray or roaming dogs in housing areas or entering the installation are seen, please call the 502nd Civil Engineering Squadron service call desk at 671-5555 to establish a work order and report the stray as soon as possible. Civil engineers will set traps for the strays and remove once the strays have been caught. If a wild animal is seen, keep away and make sure that no one is leaving food or water near housing areas. In addition, call Lincoln Military Housing at 221-0948 to have pest control service place a trap around the residence.

Army South Soldiers hone weapons proficiency

U.S. Army South Soldiers received training on "Shoot-Don't Shoot" scenarios to increase proficiency in weapons familiarization and competency in live environment situational training July 16 at

the Engagement Skills Trainer on Fort Sam Houston.

"Shoot-Don't Shoot" training is intended to familiarize Soldiers to weapons that are outside of their scope of expertise and to test the

ability of the Soldiers to make lethal decisions under pressure.

As a team, Soldiers were presented with different realistic threatening and non-threatening situations while on a simulated

patrol or at a check point where they have to react accordingly with the right type and amount of force.

Throughout the training, each team progressively increased their ability to assess each

scenario quickly and make life or death decisions by communicating with each other and eliminating the threat before it escalates.

(Source: U.S. Army South Public Affairs)



U.S. Army South Soldiers Spc. Hector Gonzalez (left), Headquarters Support Company, and Sgt. 1st Class Robert Merchant, Intelligence and Sustainment Company, hone their weapons proficiency during "Shoot-Don't Shoot" live environment situational training July 16 at the Engagement Skills Trainer on Fort Sam Houston.



Photos by Sgt. Mahlet Tesfaye
Spc. Tami Hansen, Headquarters Support Company, U.S. Army South, takes aim during "Shoot-Don't Shoot" live environment situational training July 16 at the Engagement Skills Trainer on Fort Sam Houston.

Nurse advice line provides medical expertise, peace of mind

For Capt. Stephanie Raps, Easter weekend went from fun excursion to ordeal in a matter of hours. That's how long it took for her two small children to become ill as her own sinus infection worsened.

"We were nine hours from home, traveling in rural Ohio, and I knew we were at least two hours away from the nearest military treatment facility at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (Ohio)," she said.

Raps, a nurse herself, had already contacted the Nurse Advice Line (1-800-TRICARE, option 1). Resources there provided guidance on all three "patients" and told her to call back if she needed additional help.

When seven-month-old Leah's ear infection worsened to include a high fever and fluid oozing from the ear, Raps knew she had to take further action.

"I was worried it was a rupture, as was the nurse on the phone, and they got me to the appointment center, which set me up with a pre-authorization at a civilian clinic within six hours," she said. "It was reassuring to talk to another nurse professional who I know was giving good advice."

Such reassurance makes NAL especially valuable to military personnel and their families. Nurses follow a strict protocol and walk callers through a series of ques-

tions to help determine the level of care needed. Options include visiting the emergency room right away, waiting for a regular appointment or taking care of the issue at home.

For safety reasons, the patient – even if it's a child – must be present when calling NAL.

"It ensures the patients receive the right care at the right time from the right provider," said Jeannine Leonard, clinical coordinator for the TRICARE Prime clinic in Chesapeake and Virginia Beach, Va. "It gives our patients a place they can call 24 hours a day and get the advice they need for their concerns. In addition, NAL helps our clinic

manage its access to care, ensuring patients are seen according to protocols."

Tamika Nelson, a retired Army sergeant with 22 years of service, faced that very issue. When a urinary tract infection became too much to bear, she got in her car to face the possibility of gridlock in Washington, D.C. trying to reach her regular military clinic at Fort. Belvoir, Virginia. But then she remembered what a friend told her about NAL and made a quick call.

"The nurse was very helpful," said Nelson. "She said while I did need to be seen within the next eight hours, I didn't have to drive all the way to Fort. Belvoir.

She sent a referral to an acute care clinic just around the corner from where I live, and I was seen, got my prescription and was back home in about an hour and half. It was the best thing ever!"

Nelson was referred to an urgent care clinic because she was beyond the 30-minute drive time specified in access-to-care guidelines.

In addition to being an extra health care resource, NAL increases patient safety, especially as the patient is handed off from one care provider to another. To further ensure a safe patient experience, military Medical Treatment Facility

See NURSE, P9

Protect yourself from insect and tick-borne diseases

By Roseanne Radavich
U.S. Army Public
Health Command

Insect and tick-borne diseases, such as malaria, dengue fever, yellow fever and Lyme disease are serious health threats which cause human misery, hardship and more than one million deaths worldwide each year.

Many of these diseases can be prevented using a few simple protective measures.

Protect exposed skin from bites by applying Environmental Protection Agency-approved repellents containing DEET or Picaridin.

Wear permethrin-treated clothing, which repels ticks, mosquitoes and other biting insects. Some military uniforms and civilian outdoor clothing come pre-treated with permethrin. These garments are highly recommended

because factory-treatment lasts the lifetime of the garment.

If your uniform or clothing has not been treated with permethrin, you can treat it yourself with commercially-available aerosol/pump-spray products containing 0.5 percent permethrin, which typically lasts for six weeks and six washings.

Wearing long pants and long-sleeved shirts also reduces bites by covering your skin.

Wear light colors to help you see and remove ticks from your clothing before they can bite you. Check yourself thoroughly for ticks after you have been in tick habitat, and promptly remove any ticks that have attached to your skin.

Remove a tick by grasping it close to the skin with tweezers and pull up until the tick detaches. Secure the

tick in a plastic bag or container, and kill it by freezing. Keep the tick, and bring it with you to the doctor in case you become ill. The doctor can use the tick to help diagnose your illness and provide speedy treatment.

Homeowners can also make simple changes to reduce the number of mosquitoes and ticks around their yards.

A female mosquito prefers to lay her eggs in standing water, and under ideal weather conditions, it can take less than a week for her eggs to hatch and develop into adults.

Break this weekly breeding cycle by removing the standing water from your yard. Empty any water accumulating in toys, lawn furniture, clogged gutters, tarp-covered vehicles and other artificial containers.



The lone star tick is found in many communities in the United States. One of the first things personnel can do to prevent a tick bite is to recognize tick habitats and avoid them.



Photos by Graham Snodgrass
The deer tick is the only tick that carries Lyme disease. If individuals remove attached ticks promptly, they can prevent tick-borne disease

Water containers like pet bowls and bird baths can be emptied and refilled weekly to get rid of mosquitoes.

Ticks are most common in tall grass and shrubs and are moved around by animals. Keep your yard free of trash and debris, mow lawns, trim overhanging trees and shrubs and avoid feeding or attracting feral and wild animals into your yard.

A few important in-

sect and tick-borne diseases have vaccines or medications developed to prevent them.

Highly-effective vaccines exist for diseases like yellow fever and Japanese encephalitis, while pills can be taken to prevent infection with malaria.

Talk to your health-care provider about insect-borne diseases, especially if you plan to travel. If a medication is not available, take other

precautions to protect yourself.

Don't let insects ruin your trip and send you to the doctor! Take your medications, receive your vaccinations, use repellents on your skin and clothing and modify your yard to ensure that you have the best protection against insect and tick-borne diseases.

For more information, contact the Department of Defense Pesticide Hotline at 410-436-3773.

Military entomologists release video on controlling mosquitoes in and around the home

By Zia Mehr
U.S. Army Public Health Command

With summer officially here, many individuals are spending more time outdoors. Being outdoors increases one's risk of being bitten by mosquitoes. Not only do mosquito bites make outdoor activities unpleasant, their bites can transmit diseases to people and domestic animals.

In the United States, mosquitoes can spread West Nile fever, dengue, chikungunya and several other debilitating diseases.

Mosquitoes are also responsible for transmitting heartworm in dogs.

To better educate service members and their families on what they can do to protect against mosquito-borne disease, the Entomology Program of the Army Institute of Public Health has released a video on controlling mosquitoes in and around the home. The video can be reviewed on Youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1tYQCic3yew>.

All mosquitoes have one common requirement

— they need water to complete their life cycle.

“Mosquitoes grow in almost any source of water, including fresh water, saltwater marshes, brackish water and sewage,” said Tom Burroughs, AIPH entomology program manager. “Mosquitoes can live in the water in tin cans, bird baths, barrels, ornamental ponds, boats, canoes, discarded tires, plant pots, clogged gutters and poorly maintained swimming pools.”

Military entomologists say there are steps one

can take around the home to decrease mosquito breeding and basic personal protective measures that can reduce one's chances of being bitten.

According to the video, controlling mosquitoes in and around the home can be accomplished by reducing larval and adult populations and avoiding contact with mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes also bite indoors, so individuals need to prevent mosquitoes from gaining entry into living and sleeping quarters and eliminate those that



Photo by Graham Snodgrass
An Aedes aegypti mosquito, which can transmit yellow fever, dengue fever and chikungunya.

might already be there.

Entomologists want individuals to keep in mind that adult mosquitoes can fly several miles from the water source where they developed. Therefore, attempts at controlling mosquitoes on certain premises may not eliminate all biting activity.

A community-wide

effort may be needed to reduce mosquito levels, according to AIPH personnel.

“This will require the cooperation of neighboring homeowners, homeowners associations and local government agencies to reduce adult populations and breeding sites,” Burroughs said.

U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion-San Antonio welcomes new commander

The U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion-San Antonio welcomed Lt. Col. Kevin D. Bouren as its new commander in a change of command ceremony at the Alamo July 17. Bouren takes over for Lt. Col. Britton T. Hopper, who served as the battalion commander since July 11, 2013.

"It's an honor to take command of a battalion with such a rich heritage and outstanding Soldiers who pride themselves on continued excellence," Bouren said. "I am humbled by this opportunity



Lt. Col. Kevin D. Bouren
Courtesy photo

and look forward to the challenge as this exceptional battalion continues to move forward in meet-

ing our Army's recruiting needs."

Bouren has served in a variety of assignments, including major peacekeeping and combat operations. His most recent assignment was as the deputy G-1 for I Corps at Joint Base Lewis-McCord, Wash., where he served as a senior human resources advisor to the commanding general.

Hopper will transfer to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where he will be assigned to the U.S. Army Mission Command Training Program.

WIRED from P3

e-sign, tool completes the process to paperless signing.

An electronic consent form benefits both patients and providers, Bowen explained. Patients receive a legally standardized consent form that's clear, concise, legible, and easily retrieved by providers.

Further, the e-sign tool represents a high-tech and much-needed response to the growing inefficiencies of lost or incorrect consents and resultant delays in procedures and operating start times, he added. "The clinical staff at

SAMMC has wholeheartedly embraced this new capability, and iMedConsent is rapidly being deployed in every ward and clinic," Bowen said.

The program has made tremendous strides, he noted. The original average for missing or problematic consents reported as having a negative impact on operating room start times or patient care was approximately 46 percent.

According to recent data, the percentage of missing or incorrect consent forms is now less than 1 percent.

"To date, 11,619 consents have been completed and stored electronically in iMedConsent," Bowen said. "This dovetails nicely with our efforts to improve patient engagement."

Bowen said he's thrilled to see SAMMC selected for the "Most Wired" honor for the fourth year in a row. "I attribute this ongoing success to leadership support, teamwork, dedication, and to the BAMC Information Management Division team," he said. "It is so important to stay cutting edge for our staff and patients."



Photo by Robert Shields

The Collado family poses for a photo at San Antonio Military Medical Center July 7. From left are Maria Hernandez, Alma Collado, 1-year-old Adriana, Army Maj. Jose Collado, Jose Jr., and 11-year-old Melissa.

ROBOT from P1

deep-seated mass with better visibility.

"The mass was in an area where open surgical incision would be difficult," he explained, "and risky with vital structures in the way."

Novak patiently followed Jose closely for two years. However, with a potential military move for the family looming, the Collados asked Novak to perform the surgery before they left.

Confident that Jose was ready, the doctor quickly enlisted the help of Army Maj. (Dr.) George Kallingal, a urologic oncologist and robot-assisted surgery expert, and Air Force Maj. (Dr.) Michelle Marino, a pediatric anesthesiologist.

"We took a team approach to gain experience and comfort

for everyone involved," Novak said.

Since robot-assisted pediatric surgery had never been performed at BAMC, Novak garnered support at the highest echelons of his command.

"Everyone was very supportive," he said. "I felt strongly Jose was the right candidate who could greatly benefit from the surgery."

Novak and his team performed the surgery June 30.

"It was highly successful," he said. "We removed the cyst without any complications."

Jose's father noted his son's quick recovery.

"We were home after two nights at the hospital and Jose was fine," Collado said. "He's up and about like nothing ever happened."

"We are ridiculously happy with the doctors here," he added, not-

ing special gratitude for Jose's neurologist, Army Lt. Col. (Dr.) Richard Hussey, and for Novak. "It's one of the reasons we wanted to come here; the pediatric care was very well known."

Collado was so pleased with the care, he volunteered for an assignment in Korea rather than move his family away.

"I wasn't comfortable with a break in care," he said. "Jose's progress here has been unbelievable."

Novak said he couldn't be more pleased with the outcome.

"Everything came together: the right patient, right family, right problem, right team," he said. "We hope to do more surgeries of this type in the future, but in the meantime, it's just very rewarding to have made a difference in Jose's life."

Did you know?

One of the best things about ICE is that people can let service providers know when they do a great job, not just for poor service.

It takes 5 minutes or less to submit a comment at <http://ice.disa.mil>.



Transferring TRICARE Prime enrollment can be done by phone, online or mail

People moving to a new location can transfer their TRICARE Prime enrollment by phone, online or by mail.

The easiest way to transfer a TRICARE Prime enrollment is to call the current regional contractor to begin the process.

For those moving to a new region, the regional contractor will send information to the new regional contractor, who will follow up to complete the enrollment transfer after arrival at the new location.

The new regional contractor will assign a

primary care manager best suited to a beneficiary's needs and the location of your work or home and can inform you if the US Family Health Plan is available in your new area. For more information about USFHP, visit <http://www.tricare.mil/usfhp>.

For those needing care for an existing medical issue before the transfer is processed, contact the primary care manager or the regional contractor for the region you are moving from for referral and prior authorization.

For stateside regional contractor contact in-

formation, contact the TRICARE North Region at 877-874-2273, the TRICARE South Region at 800-444-5445 or the TRICARE West Region at 877-988-9378. For overseas contact information, visit <http://www.tricare.mil/overseas>.

Stateside TRICARE Prime beneficiaries can also transfer your enrollment online using the Beneficiary Web Enrollment website at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/bwe>.

For more information, visit www.tricare.mil/bwe. TRICARE Prime enrollment through BWE is

only available to beneficiaries in the United States.

Beneficiaries can also transfer their TRICARE Prime enrollment or change a PCM by completing the TRICARE Prime Enrollment, Disenrollment, and Primary Care Manager Change Form (Department of Defense Form 2876) and mailing it to the new regional contractor using the address listed on the form. To download DD Form 2876, visit <http://www.tricare.mil/forms>.

(Source: <http://www.TRICARE.mil>)



Courtesy Photo

Facebook alone has more than 1.44 billion active monthly users, many of which are leaders in the military community. Leadership comes with responsibilities. As a leader, you need to consider what you post onto your personal account.

SOCIAL from P2

comments to open pages, think about the themes and messages your organization wants people to know.

2) Choose friends wisely

Who follows you on social media? What advantage is there to have all of your subordinates able to comment on your posts and see what you think constantly? Separate your business from pleasure while using your personal account.

Before you engage in a conversation online, think about if that conversation would happen in uniform. Doing this will help you protect your subordinates and yourself from awkward conversations the next time you meet in person about irresponsible posts to the Internet.

3) Know the capabilities of what you use

Understand the social media platform you're using. For example, if you post a photo, you need to understand where it can be seen and who can see it. Essentially, you need to go hard or go home.

Be an expert and professional when it comes to communicating online. Take time to educate yourself on the various settings for your chosen social media.

4) Set the example

If your subordinates visited your social media account, what is the perception they would receive? Does your account reflect all of your talk about values and mission accomplishment like the way you talk at meetings? Are you a whiner?

Perception is everything. Many service members and their families look at leaders as role-models. Think about what example you set for the people that want to someday be in your position. Social media is a great opportunity to inspire people. Use it to your advantage.

5) Tell your people your expectations

It's one thing to set the example but to tell your service members what the expectations are goes even further. Many service members are not told the do's and don'ts of social media.

Many service members are only trained on not violating operation security through social media. They post what they feel and sometimes don't know about the implications.

If you engage service members early in their career and talk about expectations, the less likely you will need to deal with issues in the future.

TRICARE beneficiaries get online chat function

TRICARE beneficiaries may now use a new online chat function through <http://www.HumanaMilitary.com>.

To chat with a beneficiary service representative, log in to the secure portal, enter your User ID and password (or Department

of Defense self-service logon) and click the "Chat Available" image. You will then be asked to select a reason for your contact.

Moments later, a representative will be online to assist you. The hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays

through Friday,

The new chat function enhances your customer service experience by providing a fast and to-the-point interaction with a beneficiary service representative, the flexibility to continue your daily routine and

still get the information you need for your health concerns and a simple alternative for beneficiaries with special needs to easily get answers to their health care questions.

(Source: <http://www.TRICARE.mil>)

NURSE from P6

Patient Centered Medical Home team members can access live NAL information so they are aware of their patients' situation and can provide follow-up, if needed.

"Anytime you move from one level of care or one facility to another, your patient is at risk," said Sherry Herrera, who oversees military clinical operations for the Colorado Springs, Colo., area. TRICARE beneficiaries enrolled at her military treatment facility call NAL more than 1,700

times each month. "The information gathered over the phone is available electronically to the military treatment facilities, enhancing patient safety because there is a much greater chance that the caller's primary care manager will have access to those records when the patient needs follow-up care." Depending on call volume, some beneficiaries might experience a delay when they call, but NAL is working to address this issue. Even with potential delays, callers agree telephone wait times are shorter

than those in an emergency room.

When a military treatment facility is close enough and can offer the acute care or emergency room services needed, callers are directed to that facility, even if they prefer to visit a civilian urgent care clinic. This ensures primary care managers know about the visit and have access to care records.

For Raps, the advice line provided a triple win: It addressed her daughter's potentially serious ear problem, saved mother and children from

hours of waiting in an emergency room and allowed the weekend road trip to proceed.

"Easter was saved," she said. "We were able to enjoy more time with our family. And I had peace of mind."

The Nurse Advice Line is available at no cost to TRICARE beneficiaries in the Continental United States, Alaska and Hawaii and is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call 1-800-TRICARE and choose option 1.

(Source: <http://www.Health.mil>)

Progress continues on new Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center



Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Jerilyn Quintanilla

Serving more than 55,000 patients, the new Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland will be the Department of Defense's largest outpatient ambulatory surgical facility.



Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Kevin Iinuma

With the new Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center opening the summer of 2016, the three current pharmacies will be combined into one. This will provide customers with 13 service windows to pick-up medical prescriptions.



Photo by Air Force Staff Sgt. Kevin Iinuma

The new Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center will have four fully outfitted operating rooms. The rooms are state-of-the-art with ceiling mounted equipment and utility supply booms which leave the floor entirely unobstructed for staff mobility and flexibility. They also employ the latest audio-visual patient monitoring and feedback systems for enhanced monitoring and practitioner training.

JCS chairman releases National Military Strategy; blueprint how military uses forces to protect security

By Jim Garamone

DOD News, Defense Media Activity

The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff cannot predict exactly where the next threat to the United States and its interests may come from, but he knows it will happen faster than in the past and the U.S. military must be prepared.

The National Military Strategy released July 1 by Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey provides the blueprint for how the military will use its forces to protect and advance U.S. national and security interests.

“Globalization, diffusion of technology, and demographic shifts are driving rapid change as state actors and trans-regional networks challenge order and stability,” said Dempsey. “This strategy addresses these dynamics and our strategy to ensure that our force remains the best-led, trained and equipped military on the planet.”

The National Military Strategy follows the release of the 2015 National Security Strategy in February this year, as well as the 2014 Quadrennial Defense Review.

The strategy recognizes that the application of military power versus traditional state threats is far different than military power against non-state actors. It also posits that the most likely scenario is prolonged campaigns rather than short, intense battles.

The strategy also states that as a “hedge against unpredictability with reduced resources we may have to adjust our global posture.”

According to the strategy document, the U.S. military also must be ready to counter “revisionist states” such as Russia that are challenging

international norms as well as violent extremist organizations such as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

“We are working with allies to deter, deny and – when necessary – defeat potential state adversaries,” the document says. But at the same time, the U.S. military is building and leading an extensive network to take on ISIL.

Globalization is allowing people and technology to move around the world in a way never seen before, complicating an already complex security situation, according to the strategy. Globalization has positive effects in stimulating trade and making many nations prosperous, but it also can exacerbate social tensions, cause competition for resources and may engender political instability.

Technology speeds everything up. The strategy noted that individuals and groups, today, have more information at their beck and call than governments had in the past.

While the document notes Russia’s contributions in some security areas such as counternarcotics and counterterrorism, it also points to that nation’s willingness to use force to achieve its goals.

“It also has repeatedly demonstrated that it does not respect the sovereignty of its neighbors,” the strategy states. “Russia’s military actions are undermining regional security directly and through proxy forces.”

But Russia is not the only country of concern in the strategy document.

Iran’s nuclear program worries American allies in the region and beyond, according to the strategy. Iran sponsors terrorist groups in the region and is active



Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Daniel Hinton

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey (right) and Defense Secretary Ash Carter brief the press at the Pentagon July 1.

in Syria, Iraq, Yemen and Lebanon.

North Korea remains an outlaw state that has developed atomic weapons and is building missiles capable of reaching the United States.

China is in a different class, but could be a threat to the United States, according to the strategy. It is a rising

great power and the strategy encourages China “to become a partner for greater international security.”

Still, Chinese actions in the South China Sea are worrisome.

It is a complex strategic environment and the U.S. military cannot focus on one threat to the exclusion of

all others, according to the strategy.

“The U.S. military must provide a full range of military options for addressing both revisionist states and violent extremist organizations,” the strategy says. “Failure to do so will result in greater risk to our nation and the international order.”

Summertime means the start of skin protection season

By Molly Francis
U.S. Army Public Health Command

It is finally summertime, so what better way to celebrate than by going out and enjoying the summer sun?

You probably put on sunscreen before going swimming or going to the beach because you know that the sun's ultraviolet rays, or UV rays, can damage your skin in just 15 minutes.

But wait, not so fast! You are in danger from the sun's UV rays any time you are outside.

Ultraviolet radiation is defined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as the "part of sunlight that is an invisible form of radiation."

There are two types of harmful UV rays: ultraviolet A and ultraviolet B. While UVA is the most dangerous type, the CDC cautions that UVB rays can also have negative health effects.

Too much exposure to UV rays can cause sunburn, where the radiation literally burns your skin and causes it to age prematurely.

Along with being painful, sunburn can have long-term consequences. The World Health Organization warns that UV rays cause damage to skin cells that can result in skin cancer along with other harmful effects to your eyes, skin, and immune system.

The National Cancer Institute cautions that skin cancer is the most

common type of cancer in the United States and getting just one blistering sunburn increases your risk.

The UV rays can reflect off a variety of surfaces like water, sand and pavement and cause havoc year round and anywhere outside. It is important to safeguard against the sun's harmful rays to protect yourself and your skin.

To protect yourself, follow these tips:

S: Sunscreen. Always wear sunscreen. The CDC recommends wearing sunscreen with a sun protection factor of at least 15 and offers protection from both UVA and UVB rays. Sunscreen should be worn any time you go outside for the most protection.

U: Use sunscreen correctly. Apply sunscreen at least a half an hour before going into the sun. Also make sure to reapply sunscreen at least every two hours or more often if you are swimming. If you are swimming, reapply sunscreen every time you dry yourself off.

N: No expired sunscreen. Always make sure to check your sunscreen's expiration date, as all sunscreens expire. If you cannot find one, replace the sunscreen after three years or if the sunscreen appears discolored.

See SUMMERTIME, P16

Soldier surveys weigh in on Army uniform changes

By Lora Strum
Army News Service

Soldiers should check their emails in the coming weeks for the chance to provide input on possible revisions to aspects of the Army uniform and wear policy.

Senior Army leaders, including Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey and Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno, have authorized an online survey across all major commands to receive feedback on several uniform topics.

"The Soldiers are the ones who actually wear these uniforms. The senior leaders like to be informed by as many Soldiers in the field as possible on uniform changes," said Sgt. Maj. James H. Thomson of the Institute for Non-commissioned Officer Professional Development.

Survey questions include opinions on gender-specific headgear for drill sergeants. Since 1972, female drill sergeant campaign hats

have featured a raised brim and, as of 1983, a deeper green color. The survey, designed to crosscut a large section of Soldiers, will ask if there should be a single campaign hat for both male and female drill sergeants.

Consideration of a gender neutral aesthetic is not limited to drill sergeant attire. The service cap is also being considered for conversion to a gender-neutral version. Today, the male service cap features a wide bill, while its female counterpart has a raised brim on either side. The survey asks Soldiers whether or not they see merit in continuing the distinction.

The survey additionally seeks input on prescribing the service cap as required headgear for senior noncommissioned officers and above, in lieu of the black beret, when wearing the Army Service Uniform, or ASU. Since World War II, the beret has been a staple in the Army uniform, becoming a force-wide



Photo courtesy U.S. Army

Changes to the Army drill sergeant campaign hats include a possible switch to either the male aesthetic (left), the female aesthetic (right), or a possible redesign to be completely gender neutral.

statement in 2001.

Dailey has suggested an optional "Eisenhower jacket" to be added as a more appropriate indoor alternative to the black windbreaker jacket. Named for President Dwight D. Eisenhower and designed in the late-1930s, the jacket is waist-cropped, in-

cludes additional pockets and does not require many adornments. The last modification of the shortened, British-inspired jacket was seen in 1965. The survey asks Soldiers' opinion of a version of it for all ranks.

Outside of formal dress, the survey also

asks for Soldiers' thoughts on black socks with the physical training, or PT, uniform. The suggestion came up at several town hall meetings Dailey conducted, and is now being sent out across various commands for evaluation.

"We're hearing from the force, and we want

to hear a little bit more," Thompson said.

The cost environment for the latest potential uniform changes is unknown, but the fiscal impact on both the individual Soldier and the Army will be considered before any decisions are made. The results of the survey will provide Army senior leaders valuable information on what uniform changes should be considered.

As a joint effort of the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, or TRADOC, and the Army Research Institute, the uniform survey will be conducted in the coming weeks with results expected in early August 2015.

"The one thing about Soldiers is that they all have their opinions and like to share them when it comes to the uniforms," Thompson said.

Soldiers, who are invited to participate in the survey, will get an email invitation with instructions on how to log in to the online questionnaire.

Dwell time, fitness exemptions for new Air Force mothers increase to 1 year

The six month deferment for female Airmen to accomplish their fitness assessments following childbirth has been increased to 12 months to align with recent changes to the deployment deferments, Air Force officials announced July 14.

The deployment deferment policy, as part of the Air Force's 2015 Diversity and Inclusion initiatives, increases the deferment from deployment, short tour or

dependent-restricted assignment, and temporary duty to one year, unless waived by the service member.

"The goal is to alleviate the strain on some of our talented Airmen who choose to leave the Air Force as they struggle to balance deployments and family issues, and this is especially true soon after childbirth," said Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James.

The one-year deferment applies to female

Airmen who gave birth on or after the effective date of March 6 to provide predictability with minimal disruption to Airmen and the deployment process.

As dwell times for deployment, permanent change of station and TDY increase, so too will the exemption from the current fitness assessment for female Airmen following pregnancies lasting 20 weeks or more (delivery, miscarriage, etc.). The service

does not anticipate significant mission or readiness impacts associated with extending this action.

"Like many other programs announced earlier this year, such as the Career Intermittent Program, we recognize the potential retention benefits associated with providing our female Airmen options that allow them to serve and support their family without having to choose one over the

other," James said.

Air Force Guidance Memorandums will be available detailing the changes to both policies in the coming weeks.

The Air Force continues to research opportunities, in conjunction with the Department of Defense, to extend the maternity and convalescent leave period, similar to the recent changes announced by the Secretary of the Navy.

Airmen currently receive six weeks (42 days)

of maternity leave, in line with the Department of Defense policy. By direction of the President, federal agencies can advance up to six weeks of paid sick leave to federal employees with a new child.

"We want to make sure we develop an equitable policy that supports all of our Airmen and also maintains the ability to execute our mission," James said.

(Source: <http://www.af.mil>)

Office of Personnel Management acts to protect federal workers, others from cyber threats

U.S. Office of Personnel Management officials announced July 9, the results of the interagency forensics investigation into a recent cyber incident involving federal background investigation data and the steps OPM is taking to protect those affected.

In late May, as a result of ongoing efforts to secure its systems, OPM discovered an incident affecting background investigation records of current, former and prospective federal employees and contractors, officials said.

The forensics investigation determined that the types of information in these records include identification details such as Social Security numbers; residency and educational history; employment history; information about immediate family and other personal and business acquaintances; health, criminal and financial history; and other details.

Some records also include findings from interviews conducted by background investigators and fingerprints. Usernames and passwords that background investigation applicants used to fill out their background investigation forms also were stolen.

Since learning of the incident affecting background investigation records, OPM and the interagency incident response team concluded that sensitive information, including the Social Security numbers of 21.5 million individuals, were stolen from the background investigation databases.

This includes 19.7 million people who applied for a background investigation and 1.8 million non-applicants - predominantly spouses or cohabitants of applicants,

officials said.

There is no information at this time to suggest any misuse or further dissemination of the information that was stolen from OPM's systems, they added.

"While background investigation records do contain some information regarding mental health and financial history provided by those that have applied for a security clearance and by individuals contacted during the background investigation, there is no evidence that separate systems that store information regarding the health, financial, payroll and retirement records of federal personnel were impacted by this incident," OPM officials stated in a news release.

This incident is separate, but related to a previous incident discovered in April affecting personnel data for current and former federal employees, officials said. OPM and its interagency partners concluded "with a high degree of confidence" that personnel data for 4.2 million individuals had been stolen, officials said.

"This number has not changed since it was announced by OPM in early June, and OPM has worked to notify all of these individuals and ensure that they are provided with the appropriate support and tools to protect their personal information," the news release stated.

Assistance for those affected

To protect those affected, OPM is providing a comprehensive suite of monitoring and protection services for background investigation applicants and non-applicants who had their Social Security numbers or other sensitive information stolen.

For the 21.5 million back-

ground investigation applicants, spouses or cohabitants with Social Security numbers and other sensitive information that was stolen from OPM databases, OPM and the Defense Department will work with a private sector firm specializing in credit and identity theft monitoring to provide services tailored to address potential risks created by this particular incident for at least three years, at no charge.

In the coming weeks, OPM will begin to send notification packages to these individuals, which will provide details on the incident and information on how to access these services. OPM also will provide educational materials and guidance to help them prevent identity theft, better secure their personal and work-related data, and become more generally informed about cyber threats and other risks presented by malicious actors.

Other individuals whose name, address, date of birth, or other similar information may have been listed on a background investigation form, but whose Social Security numbers are not included, could include immediate family members or other close contacts of the applicant.

In many cases, the information about these individuals is the same as information generally available in public forums, such as online directories or social media, and therefore the compromise of this information generally does not present the same level of risk of identity theft or other issues, officials said.

The notification package that will be sent to background investigation applicants will include detailed information that applicants can provide to people they may

have listed on a background investigation form. The information will explain the types of data that may have been included on the form, best practices people can exercise to protect themselves, and the resources publicly available to address questions or concerns, officials said.

OPM launched a new online incident resource center on July 10, at <https://www.opm.gov/cybersecurity> to offer information regarding the OPM incidents, as well as direct individuals to materials, training, and useful information on best practices to secure data, protect against identity theft, and stay safe online.

This resource site will be regularly updated with the most recent information about both the personnel records and background investigation incidents, responses to frequently asked questions, and tools that can help guard against emerging cyber threats, officials said. A call center will follow in the weeks to come, they added.

In June, OPM identified 15 new steps to improve security, leverage outside expertise, modernize its systems and ensure internal accountability in its cyber practices.

This included completing deployment of two-factor "strong authentication" for all users, expanding continuous monitoring of its systems, and hiring a new cybersecurity advisor.

More details are available in the OPM news release at <https://www.opm.gov/news/releases/2015/07/OPM-Announces-Steps-to-Protect-Federal-Workers-and-Others-From-Cyber-Threats/>.

(Source: DOD News, Defense Media Activity)

Identity theft: prevent it before it happens to you

By April Grant
Navy Office of the Chief of Information

Identity theft, when a person wrongfully uses your Social Security number or other personally identifiable information to commit fraud, can happen to anyone. But it doesn't have to happen to you.

Taking the proper precautions beforehand can help reduce your chances of being at risk.

Once thieves have your personal information they can drain your bank account, run up charges on your credit cards, open new utility accounts, or get medical treatment on your health insurance.

An identity thief can file a tax refund in your name and get your refund and, in some cases, give your name to the police during an arrest. And the road to recovery can be a long one.

Here are some tips on how to avoid becoming a victim:

- Keep your documents in a safe place at home, and lock your wallet or purse in a safe place at work.
 - Limit what you carry with you, when you go out take only the identification, credit and debit cards you need.
 - Opt out of prescreened offers of credit and insurance by mail by calling 1-888-567-8688 or go to <http://www.optoutprescreen.com>
 - Make sure you know who is getting your personal or financial information. Don't give out personal information on the phone, through the mail or over the Internet unless you've initiated the contact or know who you're dealing with.
 - Monitor your account statements and immediately report any unusual activity to your financial institution
- If you are a victim of identity theft, the time to act is now. Go to <http://www.identitytheft.gov> to find out what steps you need to take.

For the latest news and frequently asked questions regarding the Office of Personnel Management data breach, visit <https://www.opm.gov/news/releases/2015/07/opm-announces-steps-to-protect-federal-workers-and-others-from-cyber-threats/> and <https://www.opm.gov/cybersecurity>.

Army looks for new handgun

The Army moved closer to releasing its long-awaited solicitation for a new, modern handgun system when it hosted a fourth industry day July 8 for interested vendors at Picatinny Arsenal, N.J.

The Army named the new weapon the "XM17" Modular Handgun System. It will replace the current M9 standard Army handgun with a more state-of-the-art weapon system.

"More than 20 companies attended the event," said Debi Dawson, Program Executive Office Soldier spokesperson.

Federal procurement restrictions do not allow the disclosure of the names of firms participating, she said.

The government presented changes to its latest draft solicitation for the XM17, which were posted to the Federal Business Opportunities website June 8.

Among changes dis-

cussed at the industry day was policy that now opens up the competition to rounds other than ball (full metal jacket) ammunition.

A representative from the Army Judge Advocate General's Office discussed the decision in detail during the event.

Richard Jackson, special assistant to the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General for Law of War, told attendees that federal, state, local and military law enforcement elements routinely use expanding and fragmenting ammunition in their handguns due to the increased capability it provides against threats.

"Expanding the XM17 Modular Handgun competition to include special-purpose ammunition will provide the warfighter with a more accurate and lethal handgun," Jackson said. "Other types of ammunition allow the

XM17 Modular Handgun System to be optimized by vendors, providing a more capable system to warfighters across the spectrum of shooter experience and skill level."

Through the upcoming competition, the Army intends to replace the M9 with a more modern handgun system.

"Handgun technology has advanced significantly thanks to lighter-weight materials, ergonomics and accessory rails since 1986, when the M9 entered the Army's inventory," Dawson said. "The Army is seeking a handgun system that outperforms the current M9 system. It also must be modular, meaning it allows adjustments to fit all hand sizes."

The Army is encouraging industry to optimize commercially available gun, ammunition and magazine components to provide a system for maximum performance.



Photo By Spc. Paxton Busch

Sgt. Dave Salvador, of 75th Medical Company Area Support, South Korea, shoots his M9 during the Stress Shoot Qualification Lane of the Pacific Regional Medical Command Best Medic Competition, Sept. 21-25, 2014, at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. The Army is looking for a new pistol to replace the M9.

Current plans call for the Army to purchase more than 280,000 of the new handguns from a single vendor. Deliveries are scheduled to begin in 2018.

The Army also plans to buy approximately 7,000

compact versions of the new handgun.

Dawson said that other military services, participating in the XM17 program, may order an additional 212,000 systems above the Army quantity.

The draft solicitation spells out likely procedural and schedule details that responding vendors will have to follow to participate in the competition.

(Source: PEO Soldier)

Working group to study implications of transgender service

A Department of Defense working group will study the policy and readiness implications of welcoming transgender persons to serve openly in the military and its work will presume they can do so unless objective and practical impediments are identified, Defense Secretary Ash Carter announced July 13 in Washington, D.C.

In a statement announcing the working group, Carter said that over the last 14 years of conflict, the Defense Department has proven itself to be a learning organization.

"This is true in war, where we have adapted

to counterinsurgency, unmanned systems and new battlefield requirements such as mine-resistant, ambush-protected vehicles," Carter said. "It is also true with respect to institutional activities, where we have learned from how we repeated 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' from our efforts to eliminate sexual assault in the military and from our work to open up ground combat positions to women.

"Throughout this time," he continued, "transgender men and women in uniform have been there with us, even as they often had to serve in silence alongside their fellow

comrades in arms."

The Defense Department's current regulations regarding transgender service members are outdated and are causing uncertainty that distracts commanders from DOD's core missions, the secretary said.

"At a time when our troops have learned from experience that the most important qualification for service members should be whether they're able and willing to do their job, our officers and enlisted personnel are faced with certain rules that tell them the opposite," he added. "Moreover, we have transgender soldiers,

sailors, airmen, and Marines – real, patriotic Americans – who I know are being hurt by an outdated, confusing, inconsistent approach that's contrary to our value of service and individual merit."

Carter said he issued two directives today to deal with this matter.

First, DOD will create a working group to study over the next six months the policy and readiness implications of welcoming transgender persons to serve openly. Brad Carson, acting undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, will lead the group, which will be composed

of military and civilian personnel representing all the military services and the Joint Staff and will report directly to Deputy Defense Secretary Bob Work.

"At my direction," Carter said, "the working group will start with the presumption that transgender persons can serve openly without adverse impact on military effectiveness and readiness, unless and except where objective, practical impediments are identified."

Second, the secretary said, he is directing that decision authority in all administrative discharges for those diagnosed with gender dysphoria or

who identify themselves as transgender must be elevated to Carson, who will make determinations on all potential separations.

"As I've said before, we must ensure that everyone who's able and willing to serve has the full and equal opportunity to do so, and we must treat all our people with the dignity and respect they deserve," Carter said. "Going forward, the Department of Defense must and will continue to improve how we do both. Our military's future strength depends on it."

(Source: DOD News, Defense Media Activity)

Airman keeps San Antonio, Laughlin safe

By Tech. Sgt. Steven R. Doty
47th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs
Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas

Last year in San Antonio, just a couple of hours down the road from Laughlin Air Force Base, more than 1,600 arrests were made. Of those arrests, more than 580 were gang related and more than 200 firearms were taken off the streets. The credit for pushing gangs off of "military city's" streets goes to the San Antonio Police Department Gang Unit – and to one Laughlin Air Force Base Airman.

When not in his Airman battle uniform, Air Force Reserve Master Sgt. Christopher Enfinger, a 47th Security Forces Squadron alternate operations superintendent, serves as a patrol officer assigned to the SAPD Gang Unit with the monumental task of tackling gang-related activity.

"Our team is responsible for locating and documenting gang members and responding to any incidents that have indicators of gang-related activities in a safe and effective manner," Enfinger said. "Additionally, because we have the freedom to move around the entire city, we're available if law enforcement or first responders require additional police presence."

As one of only 25 officers, detectives, and sergeants assigned to track and monitor more than 10,000 gang members and over 30 different gangs in San Antonio, the job is an ongoing emotional and physical challenge for the 15-year Airman. Nevertheless, he attributes the dedication



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Steven R. Doty

Master Sgt. Christopher Enfinger, an Air Force Reservist assigned to the 47th Security Forces Squadron, works at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, as an alternate operations superintendent. When not serving in his reservist capacity, Enfinger is one of 25 officers, detectives and sergeants assigned to the San Antonio Police Department Gang Unit. The unit is responsible for tracking, documenting and monitoring more than 10,000 gang members and over 30 different gangs throughout San Antonio.

and commitment he taps into every day to his experiences and training as a security forces combat arms instructor in the Air Force.

"The training we go through in the Air Force, from basic training to technical training, to the way we support and assist each other, makes working in a civilian entity that much easier," he said. "Structure, discipline and leadership, with the addition of supervision, served as added benefits for making the transition into SAPD very comfortable for me and advantageous for my new colleagues."

The SAPD is not the only beneficiary to transitioning skills, in fact, Enfinger also brings a great deal back to the Air Force and his fellow security forces personnel whenever honoring his service commitment.

"I bring the leadership, supervisory and structure roles from the Air Force

back to the SAPD, the 'how we do what we do' piece," Enfinger said. "I am able to bring back a great deal of real-world experiences, updated techniques, tactics and procedures, and training methods in areas like 'active shooter,' in real time that they may not otherwise get. It's this kind of service and commitment exchange that truly motivates me."

Service and commitment are not new concepts for Enfinger. He previously served eight years on active duty in the Air Force and then transitioned to the Air Force Reserves. He's also worked for the SAPD for the past five years, and pride is a necessity in this patriot's life.

"The pride is there, just in different ways," Enfinger said. "In one way, I'm responsible for working with a team (the Air Force) who is responsible for protecting on a global scale; and in

another, I work with a team (the SAPD) who is responsible for protecting a city. Either way, I serve in a uniform predicated on protecting lives – that's my pride."

In addition to pride, maintaining civil order and discipline in a city that serves as a sort of hub, or focal point, for so many military service members and their families, motivates Enfinger to keep the streets safe.

In particular, many of Enfinger's fellow Airmen from Laughlin Air Force Base routinely travel to San Antonio for weekend retreats, holiday vacations and various other personal and professional occasions. Keeping them safe is a priority he takes to heart.

"The fact that San Antonio has such a large community presence of police, fire and military personnel – It's very important to me that I am a part of what is helping protect my own," he said.

SUMMERTIME from P12

S: Sunglasses. Wear sunglasses. Look for sunglasses that offer 100 percent UVA and UVB protection. Sunglasses can help protect your eyes from cataracts and yellowing of the lens.

H: Have and wear protective clothing. Protective clothing includes a wide-brimmed hat that shields your face and neck from the sun, long sleeves and pants. The American Cancer Society advises that clothes that are dry, darker and have tighter knits are better at protecting your skin from UV rays. However, also wear sunscreen for ultimate protection.

I: Inside. Avoid being outside from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. when possible. These are the peak hours for UV rays. If you

are going to be outside during this time of the day, take precautions like staying in the shade.

N: No tanning beds. Tanning beds produce UV rays just like tanning outside. Getting a base tan before going to the beach does not protect your skin from the sun while at the beach.

E: Examine your skin. Look for moles that are growing larger, black or uneven in color and look for discolored skin patches. These marks could be signs of melanoma, a particularly dangerous type of skin cancer, and should be discussed with your doctor.

Although sun safety is important in the summer, remember UV rays can find you year-round. If you follow these tips, you can be sure to enjoy your summer responsibly and protect your skin – the largest organ in your body!

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET

The Fort Sam Houston Independent School District will hold a public meeting to discuss the school district's 2015-2016 budget at 10 a.m. Aug. 6 in the Professional Development Center, located at 1908 Winans Road on Fort Sam Houston.

Public participation in the discussion is invited.

Comparison of proposed budget with last year's budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories: Maintenance and operations – 3.50 percent increase. Total expenditures – 3.50 percent increase.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment: Maintenance and operation fund balance - \$7,500,000. Interest and Sinking Fund Balance - \$0.

INSIDE THE GATE

Trails & Tales Tour

Friday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Take a tour of Fort Sam Houston and learn about its rich history. Transportation is provided. Due to limited seating, registration is required. Call 221-2705.

Leadership Development

Friday, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Identify the different leadership styles and various communication strategies to successfully convey information as leaders to teams or individuals. Topics covered: team dynamics, conflict resolution, coaching and mentorship. Call 221-2380.

Employment Readiness Orientation Session

Mondays, 9-10 a.m., Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Get to know your Employment Readiness Team so they can assist you with your employment needs and desires. Call 221-2380.

Family Readiness Group Treasurer Training

Tuesday, 9-11 a.m., Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Mandatory for current and incoming Family Readiness Group Treasurers. Topics covered include regulations for managing covers, FRG informal funds and fundraising. Commanders, FRG Leaders and FRG Funds Custodians are encouraged to attend. Registration is due no later than 48 hours prior to the day of the event. Call 221-2418.

Citizenship, Immigration Assistance

Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon, Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Information provided on American customs and culture. A U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service officer

will be available on-site to assist with application questions. Eligible patrons will take the Oath of Allegiance at a naturalization ceremony beginning at 2 p.m. July 28. Registration not required. Call 221-2705.

Pre-Deployment Briefing

Tuesdays, 9-11 a.m. and July 9, 23, 30, 1-3 p.m., Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Service members scheduled to deploy, go on a temporary duty assignment longer than 30 days or go on a remote assignment are required to attend this briefing. Call 221-2418.

Army Pre-Separation

Tuesdays through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to noon, Fort Sam Houston Soldier for Life, building 2263. Army patrons separating are encouraged to begin the process 18 months prior to their separation date. This counseling is coordinated through the Soldier for Life Program. Call 221-1213.

Volunteer Orientation

Wednesday, 9-10 a.m., Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Newly assigned volunteers will in-process and receive training on their responsibilities. Call 221-2380.

Volunteer Management Information System

Wednesday, 10-11 a.m., Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Volunteers will receive hands-on training with the Volunteer Management Information System. Open to all registered volunteers. Call 221-2380.

Post-Deployment Resiliency Training

Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m., Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Service members returning from deployment are required to attend a resiliency training discussing ways to deal with the stressors associated with post-deployment and reintegrate back into the home life. Call 221-2418.

Initial Key Spouse Training

Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. This is mandatory for all newly appointed Key Spouses and highly recommended for new Key Spouse mentors. Topics covered include: program roles, sexual assault prevention and response, resiliency training overview and suicide awareness. Key Spouses is an official Family Readiness Program that supports service members and their families as a quality of life initiative and provide peer-to-peer wingman support. Registration is due no later than 48 hours prior to the day of the event. Call 221-2418.

Navy Ombudsmen Basic Training

Aug. 11-13, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Fort Sam Houston Military & Family Readiness Center, building 2797. Registration for this 3-day workshop is due no later than July 28. This is a required training for all Navy Ombudsmen commanding officers, executive officers, senior enlisted leaders and their spouses. Call 221-2418.

Read to the Rhythm Summer Reading Program

The Joint Base San Antonio libraries encourages families to shake, rattle, or roll to the library for "Read to the Rhythm," the Department of Defense Summer Reading Program. During the next two months, the libraries will host a range of free activities for children, teens, and adults that encourage and support a love of reading. Register now through August, participants win prizes for reaching their reading goals. Visit Fort Sam Houston's Keith A. Campbell Memorial Library each Thursday at 10 a.m., the JBSA-Lackland Library each Tuesday at 10 a.m. and the JBSA-Randolph Library each Wednesday at 10 a.m. For more information, call the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Keith A. Campbell Memorial Library 221-4702; the JBSA-Lackland Library 671-2673; or the JBSA-Randolph Library 652-5578; or visit <http://www.jbsalibraries.org>.

Take Aim at Sportsman's Range

Hours for the Sportsman's Range at Camp Bullis are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, weather permitting. Cost to shoot is \$10 per Department of Defense ID cardholder and \$15 per non-DOD ID cardholder. A DOD ID cardholder can purchase an annual pass for \$60. Cardholders are allowed to sponsor two non-DOD ID cardholder guests. Guests must be in the same vehicle as the sponsor. Call 295-7577.

Military and Family Life Counselors

Military and Family Life Counselors address a variety of issues such as stress, anxiety and deployment. MFLCs are licensed mental health professionals who provide situational, problem-solving counseling anonymously and confidentially. No written records are kept and it is free to military and family members. Contact a MFLC at Fort Sam Houston at 517-6666 general number, 243-4143 for Army students and 488-6804 for Air Force and Navy students; at JBSA-Lackland, call 540-5025 or 540-5030 for adults, 627-0054 or 540-5033 for children and youths; and at JBSA-Randolph, call 627-1223 or 426-1412 for adults, 627-0338 or 627-0525 for children and youths.

Loan Locker/Lending Closet

The loan locker provides temporary loans of household items to incoming and departing permanent party personnel (first priority), students (second priority) and temporary duty, retirees and civilians (third priority) assigned to the area. Items available include: high chairs, pack and plays, strollers and booster seats, pots and pans, dishes, silverware, coffee pots, baking dishes, irons, ironing boards, toasters, vacuum cleaners, tables and chairs. Bring a copy of your orders. There is a 30-day time limit. To utilize the Lending Closet at Fort Sam Houston, call 221-1681. The Loan Locker at JBSA-Randolph is open Wednesdays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., call 652-5321 for details.

OUTSIDE THE GATE

USA/Hire Heroes USA Transition Workshop

A free two-day workshop for active duty service members, spouses and caregivers takes place Aug. 4-5 at the USO San Antonio, 203 W. Market St. Instructors are veterans, civilian career counselors and former human resources recruiters and specialists from corporate America, working with participants to create a high quality civilian resume and craft their value. Dress is business casual and attendees should bring a laptop, if available, NCO or officer evaluation reports and previous resumes. For more information, call 703-908-6415 and register at <http://august0405twsanantonio.eventbrite.com>.

Children's Vegetable Garden Program

The Bexar County Master Gar-

deners are taking applications for the Fall 2015 Children's Vegetable Garden Program. Space is limited. Children must be able to attend from 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays from Aug. 22 through Dec. 5. For more information and to register, visit the San Antonio Botanical Garden website at <http://www.sabot.org/education/childrens-education/childrens-vegetable-garden-program>.

2nd Infantry Division Reunion

The Second (Indianhead) Division Association is searching for anyone who served in the Army's 2nd Infantry Division at any time. For information about the association and its 94th annual reunion in San Antonio from Sept. 22-26, email Zidahq@comcast.net or call 224-225-1202.

Texas Military Polo Club

Interested in a challenge and know how to ride a horse? The Texas Military Polo Club is offering polo lessons. For more information, call 512-484-4384 or visit <http://www.facebook.com/texasmilitarypolo>.

CHAPEL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

PROTESTANT SERVICES

Sundays

Main Post (Gift) Chapel
Building 2200, 2301 Wilson Way
8 and 11 a.m. - Traditional
Dodd Field Chapel
Building 1721, 5584 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 Contemporary Service

11:01 - Contemporary "Crossroads"
Brooke Army Medical Center Chapel
Building 3600,
3551 Roger Brooke Rd.
10 a.m. - Traditional

CATHOLIC SERVICES

Daily Mass

Brooke Army Medical Center Chapel
Building 3600,
3551 Roger Brooke Rd.
11:05 a.m., Monday through Friday
Main Post (Gift) Chapel
Building 2200, 2301 Wilson Way

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

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. - Afternoon Mass, DFC

JEWISH SERVICES

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

ISLAMIC SERVICE

1:15 p.m. - Jummah, Friday,
AMEDD

LATTER DAY SAINTS SERVICES

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

BUDDHIST SERVICES

10 a.m. - Buddhist Services,
Saturday, AMEDD

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**CLASS
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3 x 4.75 AD

3 x 4.75 AD

6 x 4.75 AD