

WHAT'S UP, DACH?

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By Amy Stover, PAO, 286-7954

HOT News

Pediatric Clinic Relocates

Darnall's Pediatric Clinic has moved to 2201 S. W.S. Young Drive, the site of the former Killeen Family Care Clinic.

Patients are now being seen at the new location and construction for the new Women's Health Center will begin soon.

Look for construction updates in upcoming newsletters.



Commander's Corner



Col. Kasperik is currently TDY. The following message is from Col. Brenda Chewning-Kulick, Deputy Commander for Administration and Chief of Staff.

MEDDAC Happenings

Flu Shots Today

Staff can receive the flu vaccine today until 2 p.m. in the 3 South Dayroom.

Make a Difference Day

Come make a difference on Make a Difference Day Oct. 26 at our adopted school, Haynes Elementary, in Killeen. Everyone is encouraged to meet at the school around 7:45 a.m. to help with various projects.

Look for more information in upcoming newsletters.

Project Thankful

The annual food drive is underway. Hospital sections have a box in their areas for donations of non-perishable food items for needy MEDDAC families. For more information, please call 286-7201 or 286-7207.

Darnall Staff,

Operational security, or OPSEC, is more important today than ever.

Most of us have seen the television reporters speculating on an upcoming war in the Middle East and many of us may have seen or heard things during our day-to-day work at the MEDDAC that may cause us to speculate on upcoming actions.

One of our most important missions right now is to be prepared when and if the president calls us into action. You may have heard about planning sessions or you may have seen documents related to this in your work area. Although these things are being discussed in your office, they are not something to share over the dinner table with you loved ones.

Things you see and hear at work must stay at work. It is very easy for a terrorist listening in to two or three separate conversations to piece information together to find out sensitive information. Please be careful about what you discuss and where you discuss it.

We are a well-trained fighting force ready to go wherever the president needs us. We are well trained and ready because of the extraordinary work you do everyday.

On behalf of our commander, I want to thank you for all your hard work.

Thank you,
Col. Brenda Chewning-Kulick
DCA/Chief of Staff

Training Opportunities

Safety and the Manager

The next Safety and the Manager course will be held Oct. 23 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in building 36001, room 158. This is a mandatory course for supervisors. Please call 288-8477 to reserve a slot.

Middle Managers Course

The next Middle Managers Course will be held Oct. 23 and 24 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Ryan's Steakhouse, 1104 Central Texas Expressway in Killeen. This course is designed for middle managers, shift leaders, ward masters, supervisors and clinic NCOICs and Head Nurses. CEUs will be given for this course. To register, please contact Sgt. 1st Class Pena at 286-7249.

Consideration of Others

The next opportunity for CO2 credit will be Oct. 25 from 2-4 pm. in the hospital auditorium. Diversity will be the topic of the presentation. For more information, please contact Sgt. 1st Class Graham at 286-7180.

BLS Courses

A Basic Life Support recertification course is offered the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 7:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. The class is done on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, please contact DRETS at 288-7249.

Patient Safety Lectures

The next lecture will be Nov. 20 at noon in the hospital auditorium. The topic for this lecture is Communication and Documentation as it Refers to Patient Safety. The classes are open to all staff members. For more information, please contact Jennie King at 286-7097.

Kudos To DACH Staff

Kudos to all staff members for a safe holiday weekend.

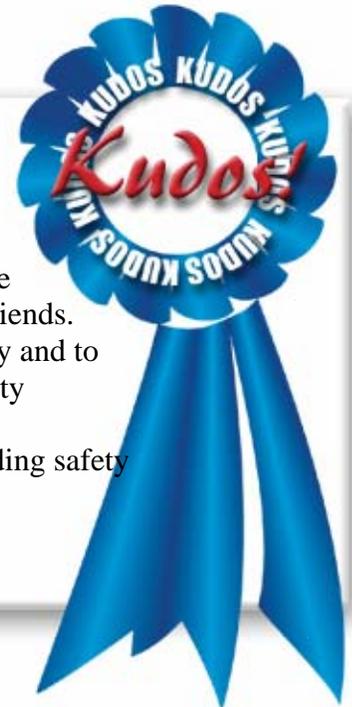
Long weekends are a great time to get together with family and friends.

It's important to act responsibly and to make sure you are following safety precautions in whatever you do.

The MEDDAC has an outstanding safety record for holiday weekends.

Let's keep it that way.

Hooah!



Did You Know?

Marriage Retreat

A marriage retreat will be held Oct. 17 at Pancho's Mexican Buffet from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for all MEDDAC couples. Dinner is provided for all participating couples. To reserve a seat or for more information please call Sgt. Maria Castillo at 288-8849.

MEDDAC Bowling Challenge

The next MEDDAC Bowling Challenge will be Oct. 27 at 1 p.m. at Phantom Bowling Lanes. The challenge is open to all MEDDAC staff members. The cost is \$6.75 per person or \$33.75 per teams. Five person teams must all belong to the same section or department. Shoe rental is \$1.25 per person. Master Sgt. Hypolite or Ms. Annie Munn will collect bowling fees at the bowling alley. Please sign up by Oct. 22 in the Adjutant's Office. For more information, please call 288-8010 or 288-8008.

Correction

In the last newsletter the name of one of the promotable staff sergeants was misspelled. The correct spelling is Staff Sgt. Gregory D. Archbold.



Chiropractic Services Available

The Chiropractic Clinic opened Oct. 7 at the Monroe Health Clinic offering chiropractic services to active duty service members only. The clinic operates on a consult only basis. For more information, please contact Maj. Joseph at 288-8190.

MEDDAC Golf Tourney

The next golf tournament will be held Nov. 19 with a shotgun start at 11 a.m. at the Clear Creek Golf Course. The format is a 4-person scramble. There is a \$25 entry fee that includes cart and greens fees. The tournament is open to the public. Please register your team by Nov. 4. For more information, or to register, please contact Capt. Soo Lee Davis at 288-8744 or soo.davis@amedd.army.mil.

AMEDD Holiday Ball

The AMEDD Holiday Ball will be held Dec. 6 at 6 p.m. at the Phantom Warrior Center.

Tickets will be on sale soon.

TSP Open Season

Federal Civilian Thrift Savings Plan Open Season is Oct. 15 to Dec. 15. During TSP Open Season, federal employees may start or change the way future contributions are invested in the five different TSP funds. For the year 2003, CSRS employees may contribute up to 8 percent of their basic pay each pay period and FERS employees may contribute up to 13 percent of their basic pay each pay period. The IRS elective deferral limit for 2003 is \$12,000.

Open Season elections may be made via the Army Benefits Center-Civilian using the Employee Benefits Information System at <https://www.abc.army.mil> or by calling 1-877-276-9287 or 1-877-276-9833 (TDD Number). Counselors are available via telephone from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

To speak with a counselor or to update your information online, you will need a password and PIN. If you need assistance with this, please contact the support section at the CPAC at 288-2059 or 288-2016.

Open season changes affect only your future contributions. If you want to make a contribution allocation and/or interfund transfer, you can request it by either the TSP Web site at <http://www.tsp.gov>, the ThriftLine at (504) 255-8777, or by completing the TSP-50, Investment Allocation form and mailing it to the address shown on the form. This form can be obtained from your CPAC.

Quotes

Experience

“The years teach much which the days never knew.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Experiences are savings which a miser puts aside. Wisdom is an inheritance which a wastrel cannot exhaust.”

Karl Kraus, Austrian writer

“Experience is one thing you can't get for nothing.”

Oscar Wilde