

WHAT'S UP, DACH?

December 18, 2002 Issue 27

By Amy Stover, PAO, 286-7954

HOT News

Santa Fe Gate Closes At Noon During Holiday Period

Access Control Point 6, located at Santa Fe and Wratten, will close at noon daily from Dec. 20 to Jan. 2.

Please ensure that our patients are also aware of the change. Staff and patients may use the main entrance on Hood Road to access the hospital.

MEDDAC Happenings

Holiday Ball Pictures Are In

The professional photos from this year's Holiday Ball are in. Please pick them up in the Adjutant's Office, room 1031 near the Command Suite. The office is open from 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-4:30 p.m. For more information, please call 288-8010.

List Serve Is Now Available

The email news service is now available for all staff, patients and beneficiaries who are interested in receiving news about Darnall through their personal email accounts.

To register for the service, go to the DACH homepage and click on the Email News Update icon on the lower right side of the screen. For more information, or to submit an article to the service, please contact Public Affairs at 288-8005.

Commander's Corner



Darnall Staff,

What an extraordinary year we have had at this MEDDAC. With all the exciting things we've accomplished, we still have many more planned for next year.

In 2002, we opened the largest free-standing health clinic in the Department of Defense. Many VIPs attended the clinic dedication ceremony in February, none more special than the family and loved ones of Private 1st Class Charles Thomas Moore, a combat medic who died saving lives in Vietnam.

We also began offering laser eye surgery and chiropractic services to our active duty population. These services enhance combat effectiveness by eliminating the need for contact lenses and eyeglasses on the battlefield and getting soldiers back to work quicker through chiropractic or laser surgery intervention.

Patients are now able to receive some prescriptions by mail through the Consolidated Mail Outpatient Pharmacy program. The DACH Referral Center is also available to help patients coordinate any care they must receive outside of DACH.

We have many more initiatives planned for 2003, including a new Women's Health Center, a new pharmacy at the Clear Creek PX, renovations to our Labor and Delivery and Mother Baby Units, and additions to TMC 10 and the Emergency Department, just to name a few.

Thank you for all your hard work in 2002. These new services and initiatives are the great success they are because of your hard work and dedication.

Have a great holiday season and a wonderful 2003,

Col. Donald J. Kasperik

Training Opportunities

Customer Service Class Cancelled

The customer service class for Dec. 20 is cancelled. The next class is scheduled for Jan. 17 from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the hospital auditorium. For more information, please call Cheryl Turner at 288-8156.

Preparing a Quality Resume With Resumix Course

This course will assist federal employees with preparing their resume using the Army Resume Builder.

The course is scheduled for Jan. 9 from 8:30-11 a.m. at the Soldier Development Center, building 33009. To register, please contact Carolyn Williams at 288-7248.

Web Based Resumix Referral System Course

This course is designed to guide selecting officials through the entire referral process, from when the RPA is submitted to the point where the selection is made.

The course is scheduled for Jan. 9 from 1-3:30 p.m. at the Soldier Development Center, building 33009. To register, please contact Carolyn Williams at 288-8410.

HIV/AIDS In the Workplace Course

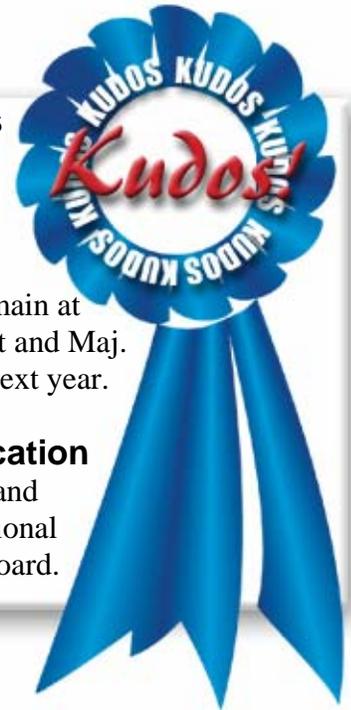
The HIV/AIDS in the Workplace Course is scheduled for Jan. 14 from 8-11 a.m. at the Soldier Development Center, building 33009. Medical personnel can earn 2.9 CEU credits for attending the course. To register, please contact Carolyn Williams at 288-8410.

Congrats to Recent Grads

Congratulations to Maj. Donna Moore and Capt. Paul Sexton for graduating from the US Army Graduate Program in Nurse Anesthesia. Capt. Sexton will remain at DACH as a staff nurse anesthetist and Maj. Moore will head to Korea early next year.

Asthma Education Certification

Congrats to Nancy Radebaugh and Cheri Steiner for passing the National Asthma Educator Certification Board.



Did You Know?

Federal Civilian TSP Open Season Ends Soon

Federal Civilian Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Open Season is October 15, 2002 – December 31, 2002. During TSP Open Season, 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 basic pay each pay period. FERS employees may contribute up to 13 percent of 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 (ABC-C) using the Employee Benefits Information System (EBIS) at <https://www.abc.army.mil> or by calling the Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) at 1-877-276-9287 or 1-877-276-9833 (TDD Number). If you need assistance, please call 288-2059 or 288-2016.

Remember Open Season changes affect only your future contributions.

Hearts of Gold

The Hearts of Gold employee recognition program is underway. To nominate a co-worker, log onto the DACH website and click on the bear icon.



Six Ways to Lead Without Formal Authority

Who are the leaders in your organization? Senior-level executives have titles that identify them as leaders, but leadership occurs at all levels. Employees who lead without titles or formal authority are often essential to the execution of senior management's plans. Understanding how employees lead without formal power can help you identify the leaders in your department and use their strategies to advance your own career.

- * Leading via energy and initiative-refusing to give up
- * Leading via ideas-project new ideas
- * Leading via learning-become the “go to” person
- * Leading through optimism-instill confidence
- * Leading through speed-don't waste effort
- * Leading through risk-question problems and offer solutions.

-American College of Healthcare Executives news bulletin.

Civilian Personnel Information

The rating period ends Dec 31 for Base civilian employees (GS/WG 01-08) with social security numbers ending 0.

Please provide two copies of the signed/dated evaluation (DA7223) and two copies of the initialed/dated Counseling Checklist (DA7223-1) to Personnel by COB Jan 21.

Please ensure all boxes are correctly marked, including the position description in Part IVa. The rater and the senior rater's blocks must agree. If the senior rater does not agree with the rating, the details must be worked out and the rating changed before it is presented to the ratee. In the highly unlikely case that an agreement can't be reached, the senior rater's decision overrides the rater. All changes and corrections must be made to the original, including dates, social security numbers, etc. Evals will be returned to the rater for completion or correction.

Initial counseling is mandatory within 30 days from end of the rating period and at mid-point. Employees whose rating period ended Oct. 31 should have received initial counseling in November.

For more information, please contact Charlotte Blackwell at 286-7263.

Quotes

Confidence

“Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.”

-Henry David Thoreau, American author and naturalist

“When you are content to be simply yourself and don't compare or compete, everybody will respect you.”

-Lao-Tzu, ancient Chinese philosopher

“Whether you believe you can do a thing or not, you are right.”

-Henry Ford, American industrialist