



# Success Xpress

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO SCHOOL LIAISON NEWSLETTER

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## JBSA-Lackland Hosts Home School Fair

An alternative form of education rapidly gaining popularity across the United States and within military families stationed all over the world which is legal in all 50 states, is Home School Education. Due to the frequent relocations amongst military families, it is becoming extremely popular with benefits that include maintaining stability and continuity in education and providing unique family bonding, since parents are also teachers. Experts estimate there are 2 million home-schoolers, with their numbers growing

as much as 12 percent annually in recent years. And there is data to indicate that military families are home schooling at perhaps twice the national average.



JBSA-Lackland hosted a Home School Fair on May 20, 2011 at the Youth Center to showcase resources that were available to all area homeschoolers. The School Liaison Office along with Youth Programs, the Base Library, the Exceptional Family Member Program Office and other local Homeschool Co-ops have joined together to form a task-force and are working on a initiative which will provide the JBSA Homeschool community a venue for additional classes, networking, resources

and a co-op/support group.

Texas is one of the best places in the world to home school. Texas law is fairly extensive in explaining home school rights since educational challenges have arisen in fairly recent years. As long as the instruction be bona fide, the curriculum be in visual form and includes math, spelling, grammar, reading, and a course in good citizenship, then no other restrictions can be placed on that home school.

For more information on the Texas Homeschooling Laws visit:

<http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/home.school/>

If you would like to help organize the co-op/support group, please contact the SL Office at [Lackland.slo@us.af.mil](mailto:Lackland.slo@us.af.mil)



*Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail. Ralph Waldo Emerson*

## 4-H National Youth Science Day!

The 4-H National Youth Science Day (NYSD) is October 5, 2011. Get started by visiting the NYSD website to access the experiment guides and start to plan your event at <http://www.4-h.org/4-h-national-youth-science-day/nysdhome.aspx>

The 2011 National Science Experiment, "Wired for Wind" was developed in partnership with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension and is designed to engage youth in the engineering design process of renewable energy technologies. In this year's experiment, youth will design and build their own wind turbines, play with blade pitch variables and map a potential wind farm site in their own state.

Downloadable Resources are Now Online. You can find everything you need to participate in 4-H National Youth Science Day at the newly updated website: [www.4-H.org/NYSD](http://www.4-H.org/NYSD). The site provides all the necessary tools for you to plan an exciting science event in your program and community!

### Officials Seek Input to Modernize DOD Schools

Officials in charge of the Defense Department's school system for military children are seeking input from parents, students and teachers in creating a 21st century learning environment by 2016. Plans to renovate or build more than 100 schools through 2016 follow President Barack Obama's "Strengthening Our Military Families" plan, which identifies education as a priority. Creating safe, secure and educationally appropriate school campuses for military children, DODEA officials said, is the primary goal.

Parents and community members are invited to share ideas at <http://21stcentury.dodea.edu/>. DODEA also has an internal site for employees to submit ideas at <http://intersect.hq.ds.dodea.edu/community/21stcenturyschools>. All student work must be submitted by a teacher, using the Intranet site. Read the full article at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123259067>

**SCHOLARSHIPS \$\$\$\$ TO GO UNCLAIMED:** There are countless websites that allow instant access to applications to numerous scholarships and grants, many of which go unclaimed each year. Anyone who has not visited the following websites should do so immediately for your chance to grab a piece of the scholarship pie!

- <http://aid.military.com/scholarship/search-for-scholarships.do>
- <http://www.militaryscholar.org>
- [www.students.gov](http://www.students.gov)

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# MyPlate replaces MyPyramid

[www.letsmove.gov](http://www.letsmove.gov)

Last week, the First Lady, Secretary Vilsack, and Surgeon General Regina Benjamin announced the new food icon, MyPlate replaces the MyPyramid format. My Plate gives us a visual reminder to fill half our plate with fruits and vegetables, along with protein, whole grains and dairy. To learn more about My Plate and watch a video visit the Let's Move site at:

<http://www.letsmove.gov/blog/2011/06/02/usda-unveils-new-simple-tips-stay-healthy-active-and-fit>

One week after the launch of Let's Move! in Indian Country, Mrs. Obama and American Indian children began the process of planting the "three sisters" - corns, beans and squash - in the White House kitchen garden. This traditional Native American planting technique grows crops in a mutually beneficial manner: the corn provides a structure for the beans to climb, eliminating the need for poles; the beans provide the soil with nitrogen that the other plants use; and the squash spreads along the ground, blocking the sunlight and preventing weeds. Mrs. Obama and the children also harvested crops in the garden, including lettuces, rhubarb, chard, kohlrabi, sugar snap peas, turnips, broccoli and herbs - some of which will be used in Tuesday's State Dinner in honor of Chancellor Angela Merkel.



Be sure to check out the Healthier US Schools Challenge? Last week in the Dallas Independent School District, 154 schools received the gold and bronze awards; the greatest number in a single district. Texas leads the country with 228 schools winning the Healthier US Schools Awards. Find out how to make your school or program a Healthier US School. Visit: <http://www.letsmove.gov/join-healthierus-schools-challenge> For additional details on the new nutrition standards and free resources to download visit the official USDA Choose My Plate site at: <http://www.choosemyplate.gov/>

# Grab Bag .... News You Can Use

## Keeping Kids Safe Online - Military OneSource Webinar Thursday, June 30, 2011

11:00 a.m., EST

Start early when talking to your kids about being online. After all, even toddlers see their parents use all kinds of devices. As soon as your child is using a computer, a cell phone, or any mobile device, it's time to talk to them about online behavior, safety, and security.

As a parent, you have the opportunity to talk to your child about what's important before anyone else does.

Join us for an informative sessions where we discuss helping kids improve their digital literacy, including staying safe online and being good digital citizens.

Webinars are Web-based training sessions using tele-conference audio and the Internet to deliver an interactive seminar. All posted times are listed in Eastern

Daylight Savings Time. For more information, see

<http://www.militaryonesource.com/MOS/>

[OnlineCommunity/Webinars.aspx](http://www.militaryonesource.com/MOS/OnlineCommunity/Webinars.aspx)

## Blue Star Museums Initiative

The Blue Star Museums initiative is a partnership among Blue Star Families, the National Endowment for the Arts, and more than 1,000 museums across America. First launched in the summer of 2010, Blue Star Museums once again are offering free admission to active duty military personnel and their families from Memorial Day, May 30, 2011, through Labor Day, September 5, 2011.

To access the map of Blue Star Museums participating this summer in each state, visit

<http://www.arts.gov/national/bluestarmuseums/index2011.php>

**Keep watching for information about JBSA's  
New Homeschool Support Group & Co-Op!!**

**Sittercity** connects families with quality local in-home caregivers, nannies, pet-sitters, house cleaning services and more. DoD-funded Sittercity memberships are available to all military families. Caregiver profiles on the site feature background checks, references and reviews from other site members who have used their services. In addition, the "Post a Job" feature allows you to instantly send out an open position to all of the caregivers in a selected area.

Encourage your families to access their paid membership, and post a job today at [www.sittercity.com/dod](http://www.sittercity.com/dod)



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