

# CONGRATULATIONS COLE CLASS OF 2011!



## Cole's 2011 graduates earn \$6.4 million in scholarships

By Jayne Hatton  
Associate Superintendent  
Fort Sam Houston Independent School District

Sixty-one seniors of Robert G. Cole High School's Class of 2011 were honored in a graduation ceremony June 3 at the Scottish Rite Auditorium in downtown San Antonio.

Earning a total of \$6,483,737 in scholarship offers, Cole graduates were offered 138 scholarships, with 44 from private organizations, 75 from colleges and universities and 19 from the Reserve Officers Training Corps.

"Each individual graduate is honored during the Cole graduation ceremony as high school achievements and post graduation plans are announced," said Dr. Gail Siller, superintendent. "A video tribute, created by students, also honors our graduates."

Student Council President Valeri Michna, Senior Class President Meagan Rush and Valedictorian Megan Renz provided a tribute to the senior class titled, "The Past, Present, and Future." Salutatorian Katelyn Juni provided the farewell speech.

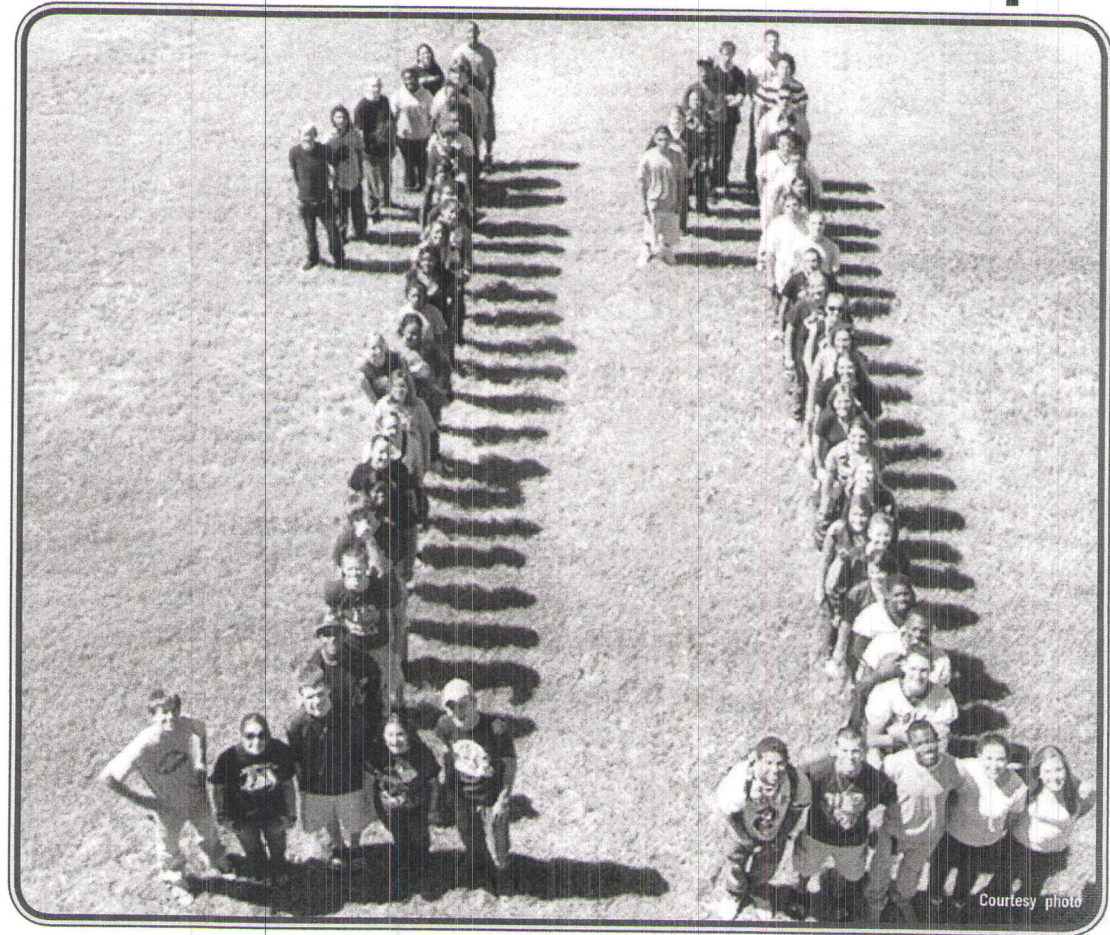
Valeri Michna, student council president, explored the past in her speech. "Learn from the mistakes you've made and cherish the priceless memories you have obtained."

Meagan Rush, senior class president, provided a view of the present sharing her advice of "Don't compare yourself to the best others can do but do the best you can do to reach your potential."

Valedictorian Megan Renz shared a view of the future in her speech to Cole graduates and their families.

"Let us make every effort to use our talents to make a difference, wherever and whenever we can. Let us work to meet the needs of others to the best of our abilities, and God willing, help make the world a better place in the process," Renz said.

"We must say farewell to childhood and forge ahead into our future," said



Courtesy photo

Juni, Cole salutatorian, in her farewell speech. "Our teachers gave us the knowledge, our friends the understanding, and our family the unconditional love that has supported us thus far in our lives. We must now make our own way in this world, and they must let us go."

"Because we are a small district, it

is possible for the parents of the 31 honor graduates to present their honor medals to their students personally," Siller said. "It's a very special moment for the families."

Summa Cum Laude honor graduate status was earned by Katelyn Juni, Taylor Kane, Valeri Michna, Gretchen Newcomer and Megan Renz, each of

whom maintained a grade average of 100 or above for grades nine through 12.

Magna Cum Laude honor graduate status was achieved by Stephanie Aviles, Rachelle Greene, Tyler Hallstrom, Carlton Hogan, James Larsen,

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**SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS**

**Rashad Anderson** - Southern Wesleyan Scholarship, George Gervin College Extravaganza Scholarship and Greater Love Missionary Baptist Church Scholarship

**Haylee Averett** - Major General Russell Czerw Leadership Scholarship and University of the Incarnate Word Deans Scholarship

**Stephanie Aviles** - Army ROTC Scholarship to William Marsh Rice University, Army ROTC Scholarship to Texas Christian University, Army ROTC Room & Board Scholarship, Navy ROTC Scholarship University of North Carolina, Baylor University Merit Scholarship, Furman University Achiever Scholarship, Texas Christian University Founder's Scholarship, Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution Enhanced JROTC Winner, Puerto Rican Heritage Society "Hector Mendez Scholarship" and Veteran's of Foreign Wars Scholarship

**Jordan Bell** - Army ROTC Scholarship to Baylor University, Army ROTC Scholarship to Citadel, Robert Morris University Chicago Academic Distinction Scholarship, Baylor University Deans' Gold Scholarship and Yellow Ribbon Program

**CJ Christman** - St. Mary's University Bordeaux Scholarship and 3-year Army ROTC to St. Mary's University

**Amber Corral** - Jonathan Baldwin Turner Scholarship and University of the Incarnate Word Distinguished Scholar Award

**Sydney Dunstan** - Culinary Arts Green Table Scholarship

**Dominique Edmonds** - St. Mary's University Bordeaux Scholarship, Army ROTC Scholarship St. Mary's University and Army ROTC Scholarship Wake Forest University

**Ashley Erickson** - Army ROTC Scholarship to the University of San Francisco, Army ROTC Scholarship to the University of the Incarnate Word, The University of the Incarnate Word Distinguished Scholar Award, The University of Northern Colorado National Bear Tracks Scholarship, Veteran's of Foreign Wars Scholarship and Rufus C. Pryor III Memorial Scholarship

**Sheyondra Evans** - Army ROTC Scholarship to Texas State University, Army ROTC Scholarship to The University of Texas at San Antonio, Army ROTC Scholarship to Baylor University, The University of Texas at San Antonio Roadrunner Scholarship, The University of the Incarnate Word Dean's Scholarship, Baylor University Merit Scholarship and University of Texas at Arlington Outstanding Freshman Scholarship

**Rachelle Greene** - Spouses' Club of Fort Sam Houston Scholarship, Cougar Pride Club Fine Arts Scholarship and University of New Hampshire Opportunity Scholarship

**Tyler Hallstrom** - Knox College Browning Scripps Scholarship, Knox College VIP Scholarship, Knox College Scholarship, Monmouth College Achievement Award and Cougar Pride Club Athletic Scholarship

**Carlton Hogan** - Rufus C. Pryor III Memorial Scholarship

**Katelyn Juni** - Cottey College Trustee Scholarship, Cottey College Academic Scholarship, Cottey College State Scholarship, Gustavus Adolphus College Dean's Scholarship, Gustavus Adolphus College President's Scholarship, Gustavus Adolphus College Evelyn Anderson Theater Scholarship, Gustavus Adolphus Paul Rucker Scholarship, Gustavus Adolphus Tuition Scholarship, Gustavus Adolphus Corundum Scholarship, Barry University Award, Robert Morris University Chicago Faculty Scholarship, San Antonio College Academic Decathlon Scholarship, University of Evansville Dean's Scholarship and Cougar Pride Club Academic Scholarship

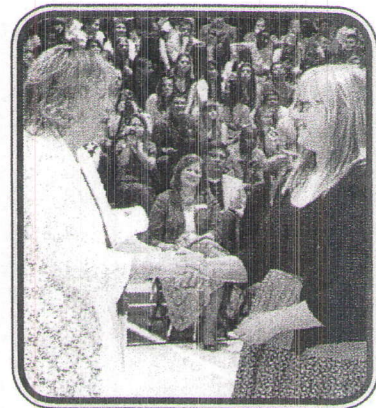
**Taylor Kane** - Robert Morris University Chicago Faculty Scholarship, The King's College New York Presidential Scholarship, Cougar Pride Club Fine Arts Scholarship and Combined Theater Arts and Food Science Scholarship

**Ashton Lagutchnik** - Angelo State University Carr Presidential Scholarship

**Jake Larsen** - Yellow Ribbon Program



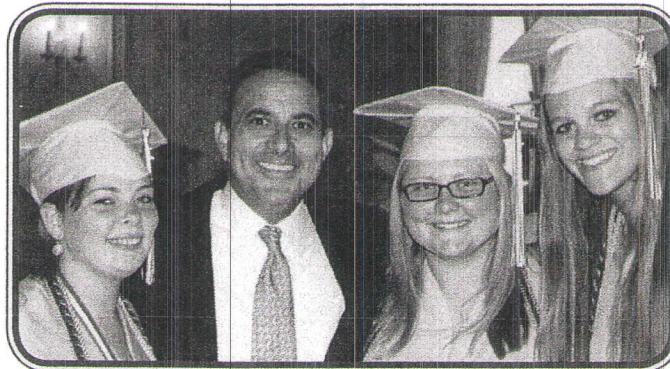
Courtesy photos  
N'Dea Spivey, Shey Evans, Ashley Erickson and Haylee Averette count the minutes until graduation.



Principal Isabell Clayton presents Megan Rush with the Cole coin presented to each senior.



Shelby Tallent accepts a ceremonial four-year Navy scholarship check from Commander Nora Perez during a ceremony May 26.



Shelby Tallent, Meagan Rush and Valeri Michna, technology interns pose with their mentor Dr. Roland Rios.



Amber Sears and Gretchen Newcomer smile in anticipation of graduation.





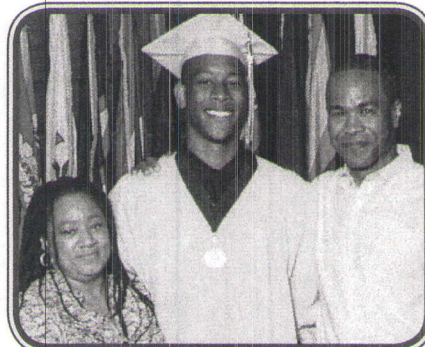
Lucilla Vasquez accepts her diploma from Deborah Seabron, FSHISD school board president.



Shane Alfieri, Lovelia Gomez, Amber Stout and Tim Sharpe provide color guard for the Senior Awards ceremony.



Megan Renz accepts a scholarship from D.A.R. Green Mountain Boys Chapter.



Calvin and Elaine Williams present their son, Taylor Williams, with the honor metal at the Robert G. Cole Graduation ceremony June 3 at the Scottish Rite Auditorium.

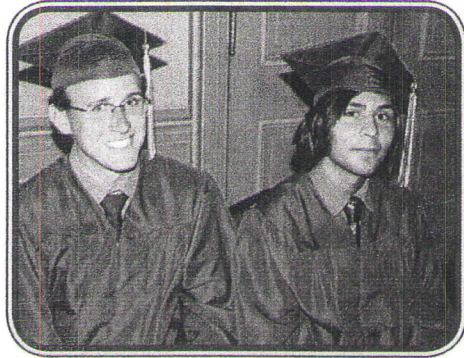


Ron Hubbert joins others in recognizing Academic Decathlon team members Ryan Swan, Shelby Tallent, Kathlyn Juni and Taylor Kane during a ceremony May 26.

**SCHOLARSHIP OFFERS**

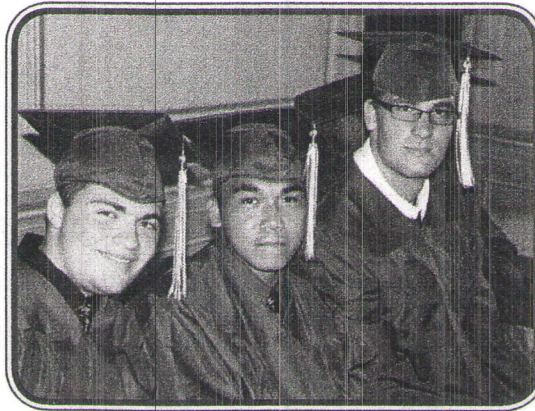
**Rebecca Lavender** - Central Michigan University Board of Trustees Honors Scholarship and Central Michigan University President's Award  
**Wesley McGehee** - Emmanuel College Trustee Award, Texas Wesleyan University Ram Award and Johnson & Wales University Presidential Academic Scholarship  
**Valeri Michna** - Sam Houston State University Scholars Scholarship, Sam Houston State University High School Relations Scholarship, Baylor University Merit Scholarship and Senior Sponsor Scholarship  
**Domonique Mincey** - University of the Incarnate Word Achievement Award and Veteran's of Foreign Wars Scholarship  
**Gretchen Newcomer** - St. Mary's College Notre Dame Presidential Scholarship for Academic Excellence, Xavier University Trustee Scholarship, Valero Alamo Bowl Scholarship, Cougar Pride Club Athletic Scholarship, Spouses' Club of Fort Sam Houston Scholarship, Alamo Chapter of the United States Army Past President's Scholarship, Military Officers Association of America Alamo Chapter and Lt. Col. Edward and Mrs. Ruby Marvin Scholarship  
**Megan Renz** - Baylor University Regents' Gold Scholarship, Baylor University Regents' Gold Scholarship Supplement, Scholarships for Military Children Scholarship, Cougar Pride Club Academic Scholarship, Daughters of the American Revolution - Green Mountain Boys Scholarship, San Antonio Express-News Student of the Month, Spouses' Club of Fort Sam Houston Scholarship and Arkansas State University Beyond Boundaries Scholarship  
**Meagan Rush** - St. Louis University Scholarship, Senior Sponsor Scholarship and University of the Incarnate Word Distinguished Scholar Award  
**Autumn Schofield** - Mrs. Jackie Stott Memorial Scholarship  
**Amber Sears** - University of the Incarnate Word Distinguished Scholar Award  
**N'Dea Spivey** - Senior Sponsor Scholarship  
**Colton Svabek** - United States Military Academy Preparatory School  
**Ryan Swan** - United States Naval Academy Preparatory School  
**Shelby Tallent** - United States Merchant Marine Academy Preparatory School, Army ROTC Scholarship Oregon State University, Army ROTC Scholarship Texas A&M University, Texas A&M Four Year Naval ROTC Scholarship (Tier 1), Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets Scholarship, Texas A&M Community Connections Scholarship, Texas A&M Sul Ross/Corps Scholarship, Texas A&M Regents Scholarship, Texas A&M Academic Scholarship, Barry University Award, Baylor University Merit Scholarship, North Georgia College & State University, Major General Russell Czerw Leadership Scholarship, Maribeaub B. Lamar Medal of Excellence Scholarship and University of the Incarnate Word Distinguished Scholar Award  
**Lucy Vasquez** - Broadway Bank Scholarship and Army ROTC Scholarship to Oklahoma State University  
**Kayanna Wade** - Army ROTC Scholarship to Colorado State University, Baylor University Merit Scholarship, Baylor University Provost's Gold Scholarship, Colorado State University Dean's Scholarship, Colorado State University Provost's Scholarship, Veteran's of Foreign Wars Scholarship, Alamo Chapter of the United States Army, General Guy S. Meloy, Jr. Scholarship and Central Michigan University Board of Trustees Honors Scholarship  
**Luke Walton** - Central Michigan University President's Award, Baylor University Merit Scholarship, Baylor University Deans' Gold Scholarship and Wendy's High School Heisman Award  
**Ryan Wiersma** - Menlo College Dean's Scholarship, Central Michigan University Board of Trustees Honors Scholarship, Texas Lutheran University Academic Excellence Award, Concordia University Luther Scholarship, Senior Sponsor Scholarship and Prairie View A&M University Distinguished Achievement Scholarship



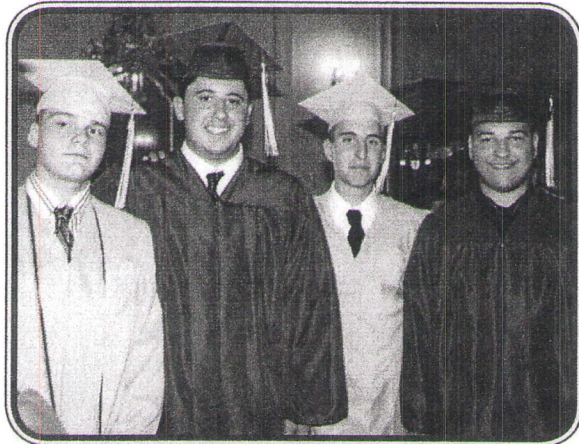


Courtesy photos

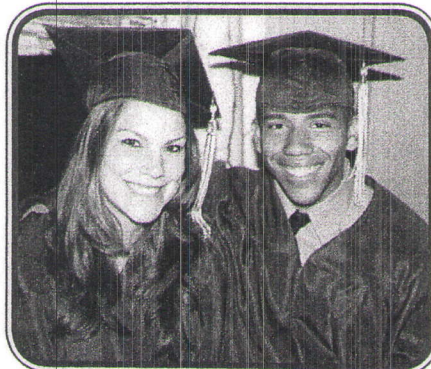
William Mudd and Santana Montoya prepare to graduate June 3 at the Scottish Rite Auditorium.



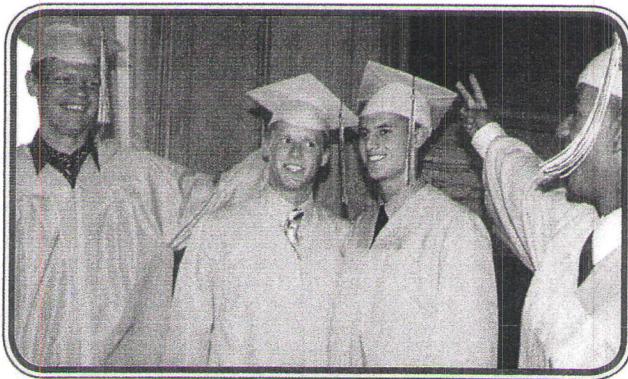
Samuel Joshua Boorse, Jefferson Macariola and Ryan Shaale ready for the ceremony to begin.



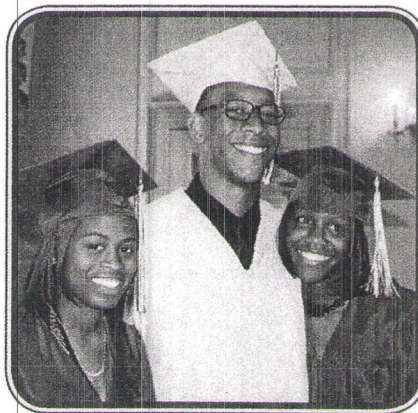
Carlton Hogan, Tim Hogan, Dallas Mazak and Robert Weppelman ready for the ceremony to begin at the Scottish Rite Auditorium



Miranda Grant and Justin Debouvier enjoy time together before the start of the ceremony.



Tyler Hallstrom, Lucas Walton, Ryan Wiersma and Jordan Bell display a sense of humor prior to graduation.



Portia Meyers, Taylor Williams and Dejanne Holloway backstage for graduation ceremony.

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Rebecca Lavender, Meagan Rush and Kayanna Wade. These students maintained a grade point average of 96 to 99 for all classes taken during their four-year high school career.

Eighteen Cole students graduated with Cum Laude honors, which is a distinction earned by those students who maintain a grade point average of 90 to 95 for all classes taken during their high school career.

Cum Laude grades included Haylee Averett, Jordan Bell, Charles Christman, Amber Corral, Dominique Edmonds, Ashley Erickson, Sheyondra Evans, Ashton Lagutchik, Dallas Mazak, Domonique Mincey, Amber Sears, N'Dea Spivey, Ryan Swan, Shelby Tallent, DeVanté Terrell, Lucas Walton, Ryan Wiersma and Taylor Williams.

Also graduating were seniors Rashad Anderson, Samuel Boorse, Krista Bryson, Jovan Canel, Amiee Cantrell, Andrew Davidson, Justin DeBouvier, Sydney Dunstan, Miranda Grant, Alyssa Greene, Tyler Hardy, Michael Hogan, DeJaneé Holloway, Henry Lauten, James Lloyd, Jefferson Macariola, Wesley McGhee, Portia Meyers, Santana Montoya, William Mudd, Tiffany Rhodes, Axel Laracuenta, Amanda Rodriguez, Brittany Schaale, Ryan Schaale, Autumn Schofield, Colton Svabek, Brandon Thomas, Lucilla Vasquez and Robert Weppelman.

Special guests attending included Dr. Michael Soto, State Board of Education member, District 3; Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commander, U.S. Army North; Maj. Gen. M. Ted Wong, commander, Southern Regional Command and Brooke Army Medical Center; Col. Mary Garr, commander, 502nd Mission Support Group, along with Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees' members Deborah Seabron, Dr. Eustace Lewis, Jane Crow, Keith Toney and Jeanne Warren.

"The Scottish Rite Auditorium is a beautiful, historic building that was designed at a time when accessibility was not a consideration," said Isabell Clayton, Cole High School principal. "Through the generosity of the Hispanic Contractors Association of San Antonio; Optrix, Inc; Path Enterprises; RSC Equipment Rental; River City Steel & Recycling, Inc; Texas Auto Carriers, Inc; Texas Towing Corporation; Universal Toyota and Westbrook Metals, Inc. a ramp was constructed and transported to the auditorium to provide accessibility for our parents, family and community members."



# Cole JROTC receives Mayor's Award for Youth for volunteer activities

By Jayne Hutton  
Associate Superintendent  
Fort Sam Houston Independent School  
District

The Robert G. Cole Cadet Cougar Battalion of the Junior ROTC received the Mayor's Award for Youth at the United Way Volunteer of the Year Awards ceremony at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center June 21.

Candidates for the recognition were originally identified at the May 4 Warfighter and Family Readiness Volunteer Program, highlighting those individuals and groups who demonstrated exceptional volunteer service to their community.

"Volunteerism is about improving peoples' lives and improving our community," said Randy Smith, president and CEO of Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union and chairman of the event.

"The mission of the Cole JROTC program is Motivate Young People to be Better Citizens," said retired Lt. Col. Robert Hoffmann, senior Army JROTC instructor at Cole H.S. "As such, the cadets are involved in many activities on the high school campus, in our military community and in and around San Antonio."

Cole cadets have volunteered as pallbearers at funeral services for homeless veter-

ans since 2005. Veterans are identified by the Bexar County Veteran's Office as eligible for the Dignity Memorial Homeless Veteran Burial Program.

A quick call and a change of class schedules has allowed students to participate in more than 100 burials, with cadets serving as pall bearers, escorts for bereaved friends and relatives and even ceremoniously folding the American flag.

"America was founded on the backs of our volunteers," added Col. Mary Garr, 502nd Mission Support Group commander and honorary military representative. "Many indi-

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**Courtesy Photo**  
Retired Lt. Col. Robert Hoffmann, senior Army JROTC instructor at Cole H.S., accepts the volunteer award for the Cole JROTC program from Linda Hummel, CEO, Humana South/Central Texas and presenting sponsor.

## COLE from P19

viduals have given their time, fortunes and often their lives to keep our nation strong."

Since 1995, Cole

cadets have been the designated volunteer color guard for the naturalization ceremonies conducted by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service in

San Antonio. "To witness an individual relinquish ties to their native country and become a citizen of the United States has been a humbling experience

for the students," said parent Laura Lamoureux. Other community service projects include packing boxes of personal supplies for

deployed troops with Soldier's Angels; Susan Komen Race for the Cure set-up, execution, and clean-up; adopt-a-highway clean-up; sponsor of quarterly school

blood drives; support for San Antonio Fiesta events; and city-wide patriotic ceremonies conducted throughout the school year, to name a few.



FORT SAM HOUSTON

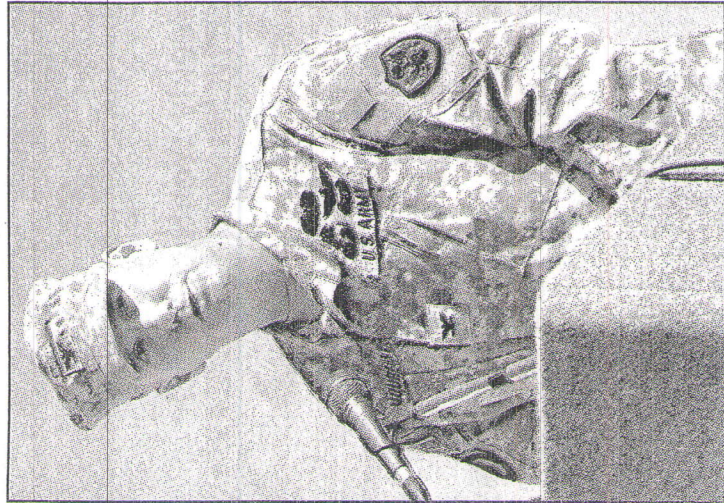
A PUBLICATION OF THE 502nd AIR BASE WING — JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO



# NEWS Leader



*"One Team, Supporting Military Missions and Family Readiness!"*



**Photo by Devanira Romo Russell**  
Col. John P. Lamoureux addresses guests at the 502nd Mission Support Group change of command July 8.

## Lamoureux takes command of 502nd Mission Support Group; Garr bids farewell

**By Steve Elliott**  
FSH News Leader

With an overflow crowd around the Fort Sam Houston flagpole July 8, Col. Mary E. Garr turned over command of the 502nd Mission Support Group to Col. John P. Lamoureux. The ceremony also made history as the first-ever change of command for the 502nd MSG.

The popularity and af-

fection Garr has garnered in the past three years as Garrison and 502nd MSG commander was evident, as numerous military and civic leaders were in attendance to bid Garr farewell and welcome Lamoureux to his new post.

Lt. Gen. Guy Swan, commanding general of U.S. Army North, presented Garr with the Army Legion of Merit for her exceptionally meritorious conduct

in the performance of outstanding services and achievements.

"In this truly blended Army-Air Force event today, I want to express our collective appreciation to Col. Garr for the exceptional job she has done in reshaping a traditional Army garrison into a mission support group," Swan said. "This has been arguably the most complex base realignment in Department

of Defense history. "No mission support group commander in the world has as many bosses as she has had, or at least people who thought they were her boss," Swan said jokingly, referring to the almost 100 mission partners on Fort Sam Houston. "Col. Garr has represented all of us at Fort Sam Houston exceedingly well

**See 502ND MSG, P3**



**502ND MSG from P1**

and she has set her successor up for success. We can't thank you enough for your friendship, skill and leadership."

Brig. Gen. Leonard Patrick, 502nd Air Base Wing commander, echoed Swan's comments and added a few more in praising Garr's tenure with the garrison and mission support group.

"Col. Garr was the trailblazer and the leader we needed during the transition into Joint Base San Antonio," Patrick said. "Her job as garrison commander from 2008 to 2010 was complex, leading Fort Sam Houston with more than 1,400 personnel and an installation worth more than \$8 billion.

"But it's with people – not things – where she really excels," Patrick continued. "Mary Garr cares about people. She cares about the service members, their families, and the civilians who work on Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis. She has always looked out for them.

"She spent much of her time planning and preparing for the Fort Sam Houston integration into Joint Base San Antonio," the general said. "This was a massive task that required the skill of a superb leader and communicator. She had the right skill set."

Patrick said Fort Sam Houston was "blessed to have Col. John Lamoureux and his wife, Laura, join us as the new command team for the 502nd Mission Support Group. He's a former commander for the 232nd Medical Battalion and for the past few months has been learning the strategic business of the Army Medical Command. He has set himself up to hit the ground running at the new MSG commander.

"You're joining a tremendous team and I know you'll find the command challenging and fulfilling," Patrick said. "You're the right team to take the baton and take the next lap."

After the ceremony took place, Garr took to the podium with some words for the people and the command she



The children of Col. Mary Garr, outgoing 502nd Mission Support Group commander, render honors during the national anthem played during their mother's change of command July 8. Pictured are (from left) Evan, Patrick and Gwen.

is leaving.

"It's my turn now to pass the baton to a great family," she said, referring to the Lamoureuxs. "When you look at yourself and your place in history, we really are just brief moments of time here.

"These past three years have seen more change at Fort Sam Houston than it has ever been through. We've built more than 50 new buildings. We've renovated and adapted more than two dozen historic buildings. We'll have gained more than 12,000 personnel by this fall. We've gone from being the home of Army medicine to being the home of military medicine.

"To be a commander here, you have to go into it heart and soul," the colonel said. "We've all worked hard to balance support for mission readiness with family support. We've worked hard to create positive memories for the people who live and work here.

"These have been exciting times," Garr said. "We basically unraveled a tight-knit team and wove their threads into several new tapestries with interlocking pieces. Our staff has had to learn a new language, a new culture, new data system and new business processes and regulations."

Garr then thanked the senior mission commanders, other mission partners and her family and also had a salute for

the incoming mission support group commander – along with a little advice.

"You are the right choice for this command and we were all happy to hear you were the one who would be replacing me," Garr said. "We were really ecstatic to know that Laura would be joining the command team. She is a volunteer of the year here and a teacher at Fort Sam Houston and we know she and her family has already been very active in the community.

"Enjoy your command, as it will pass too quickly" she

added. "Your family, like ours is truly invested in Fort Sam Houston and the community. Be sure to trust and invest in your mission support group team, because they will carry you forward. Have fun and take it forward to the next level."

As Lamoureux took the podium as the new 502nd MSG commander, he offered his thanks to his family and the rest of Fort Sam Houston.

"I want to thank everyone who has made this a special day for me and my family," he said. "I wish the Garr family the best in their future endeavors and thank them for the magnificent job they have done with this command.

"Laura and I look forward to joining the Joint Base San Antonio team and we hope that our presence will only enhance the superb efforts that are ongoing in making Military City USA the best place to be stationed in the Department of Defense.

"To all the members of the 502nd Mission Support Group I have but one directive: Don't work for me, work with me," Lamoureux said. "Together, we will set the standard for providing the best quality of life for those who live and work here at Fort Sam Houston."



Photos by Deyanira Romo Russ  
Lt. Gen. Guy Swan, U.S. Army North commanding general, congratulates outgoing 502nd MSG commander Col. Mary Garr, on her successful tenure.