



Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center

**Carl R. Darnall Army
Medical Center**

Fort Hood, Texas
December 2010

Ground Breaking for the new medical center set for Dec. 6

How to Access Health Care



NURSE ADVICE LINE

Speak to a Registered Nurse 24/7
Advice about urgent health issues
Guidance on non-emergency issues. Information about self-care for injuries and illnesses
1-254-553-3695

APPOINTMENTS ONLINE

Register online to make appointments
And refill prescriptions on the Web at
www.tricareonline.com

EVENING APPOINTMENTS

Thomas Moore Health Clinic
58th Street & 761st Tank Destroyer Blvd.
Appointments from 5—8 p.m.
On Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday
Call 254-288-8888

WEEKEND WALK-IN CARE

Thomas Moore Health Clinic
58th Street & 761st Tank Destroyer Blvd.
Saturday & Sunday
From 8—11 a.m. and 1—3 p.m.

QUICKCARE

Prompt treatment of minor injuries and sudden illnesses
Walk-in Care for Families enrolled to Bennett Health Clinic, Russell Collier Health Clinic, and Thomas Moore Health Clinic
Monday through Friday
From 8 a.m.—5 p.m.

Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center and other agency officials will turn over dirt at 3 p.m. Dec. 6 in the area of the old Fort Hood stadium to symbolize breaking ground for the construction of the new medical center that will be located across the street from the current hospital.

U.S. Representatives John Carter and Chet Edwards announcement on Sept. 29, 2009, that the Department of Defense approved their proposal to construct the new Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center in its entirety starting in 2010, rather than in two phases, brought a sense of

excitement to the medical center.

Construction of the new medical center consolidates widely scattered health services into one modern campus, making access to care more convenient. For hospital staff, it means pride in the work place, which translates to better customer service. Every patient, whether it is a Soldier, Family Member, or Retiree, deserves the highest quality of healthcare.

The original five-story Darnall Army Community Hospital was built in 1964 to serve 17,000 troops stationed at Fort Hood. A two-story wrap-around addition built in 1984 expanded its

capacity to support health-care to an expanding Corps of 30,000 troops. In 2006, the community hospital was designated as a medical center.

Today, the medical center serves nearly 55,000 Soldiers and more than 120,000 Family Members and Retirees.

Military construction requires the cooperation and coordination of many agencies such as the U.S. Army Health Facility Planning Agency, Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army Medical Command, and Ill Corps' Directorate of Public Works.

The site across from

See Modern Campus, Page 2



Thomas Moore Pharmacy Renovated New Drive-Thru Pharmacy Lanes Now Open

The Thomas Moore Health Clinic Pharmacy was redesigned over the Veterans Day holidays with improved shelving technology that allows quicker access to drugs by pharmacy employees. This put faster-moving medications within arm's reach of our staff. This helps expedite transactions and will substantially decrease wait times for our patients.

The TMHC Drive-Thru Pharmacy opened Nov. 5. Currently, the service is only open to active-duty service members assigned to the TMHC. Service members who get their health care at the TMHC should request that their provider order their medications for pick-up at the Drive-Thru Pharmacy. Only new prescriptions ordered by TMHC providers may be picked up from the Drive-Thru.

The Drive-Thru Pharmacy will be a multi-phase project that initially will

serve only active-duty service members enrolled at TMHC. Eventually, all Fort Hood active-duty service members will be able to use the service.

We've decided to limit it to Active Duty in order to expedite return to duty after medical appointments. Pharmacy staff are working to include Bennett Health Clinic Active Duty enrollees to minimize the workload at that pharmacy.

Active-duty service members assigned to TMHC who have been seen by off-post providers are required to have their prescriptions filled at the Darnall Main Pharmacy.

All beneficiaries must fill their handwritten prescriptions from network providers at the Darnall Main Pharmacy because Darnall's entire stock of formulary medications is only available at two locations, the Main Pharmacy and the Clear Creek PX Refill Pharmacy.

Our clinic pharmacies generally stock

from one-fourth to one-third of available formulary medications because of their physical layouts and limited space.

All prescription refills will continue to be called in and picked up at the Refill Pharmacy at the Clear Creek Post Exchange.

Although picking up prescription medication at the Drive-Thru is currently offered to Active Duty only, all TRICARE beneficiaries may use the Drive-Thru Pharmacy to pick up medications offered through the Self-Care Program. Patients can request selected over-the-counter (OTC) medications through the Self-Care program for minor illnesses that do not warrant a visit to the doctor.

Thanksgiving Holiday Access to Health Care

On Thursday, Nov. 25, Darnall's primary care clinics are closed. Please visit the Emergency Dept. for emergency care.

Friday, Nov. 26, Thomas Moore Health Clinic will offer walk-in health care services for acute health issues from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. All other outpatient clinics will be closed.

On Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 27-28, the Weekend Acute Care Clinic will be open at the Thomas Moore Health Clinic on 58th Street and 761st Bn. Ave. The TMHC is open for walk-in care from 8 - 10 a.m. and 1 - 3 p.m. This clinic is for active-duty service members and TRICARE Prime enrollees assigned to CRDAMC's family medicine clinics, troop medical clinics, and the Pediatric Clinic. All other outpatient clinics will be closed.

Modern Campus: Several Buildings Connected by Central Hallways

Darnall has its advantages: easy access via the Santa Fe gate and an area large enough to provide ample parking spaces that are currently in short supply.

"Approximately 2,900 parking spaces will be available, with designated parking areas for both patients and staff members," said Brian Prediger, chief of facilities management at CRDAMC. Currently, the medical center parking areas total about 1,000 spaces.

With ground breaking before the end of the year, the fate of the current medical center is in limbo. The existing building will be returned to the Fort Hood Directorate of Public Works, and there has been some consideration to bring in other units to renovate the facility and turn it

into some sort of administrative facility for another agency.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded the \$503.83 Million contract on Sept. 10 to Balfour Beatty | McCarthy Joint Venture of Dallas, Texas, to design and construct the facility.

The contract is the largest contract financed with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funds.

The new 948,000 square foot facility is approximately 70% larger than the existing medical center and specifically addresses Fort Hood's most pressing needs in the areas of behavioral health, medical/surgical specialty clinics, and pediatric primary care.

Construction will start sometime

in March or April 2011. New hospital features include:

- Three parking garages with 5,200 total spaces; 3,300 parking spaces will be in a covered garage with covered bridge walkways,
- Approx. 100,000 Sq. Ft. for behavioral health services
- Fitness Center for staff; fitness trail and track; outside healing gardens
- AGV (automatic guided vehicles) for deliveries and supplies,